The Raymond J. Wayman Collection Of U.S. Eagles & Double Eagles

And An Important Collection Of Pioneer & Territorial Gold Coins

Stack's
123 WEST 57TH STREET
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10019

United States Gold Coins

The gold coins of the United States, authorized by the Act of April 2, 1792, and officially named the Eagle, Half Eagle, and Quarter Eagle, were valued at $10.00, $5.00, and $2.50 respectively. The first pieces to be struck were the Eagle and Half Eagle in 1795. The Quarter Eagle appeared the next year. None carried any indication of their denomination. The fineness was 916-2/3, or 22 carats. The alloy consisted of copper with a percentage of silver to maintain the natural yellow color of the metal. The practice of using a small quantity of silver for this purpose in alloying gold coins continued for many years.

By the Act of 1834, in an effort to remedy the difficulties caused by the mistakes in the original coinage Act, the weight of the Eagle, which had not been struck since 1804, was officially lowered from 270 to 258 grains of standard gold and the fineness changed to 899.225, a reduction of 6.26 percent. The Half Eagle and Quarter Eagle were lowered proportionately. By the Act of January 18, 1837 the fineness was again modified to 900. The coinage of the Eagle was finally resumed in 1838. This change effectively established a ratio of 16 to 1, much nearer the market value of the metals. The size of the coins was also reduced and remained the same until gold coinage ceased in 1933.

What the coinage Acts of 1834 and 1837 had attempted to do was adjust the legal ratio of gold and silver to the market prices in those years. While this might have been successful in reflecting the true relationship in the value of the two metals at the time, it did not do away with the inherent contradictions of the bimetallic system which assumed the relative stability of the prices of gold and silver. In fact, no such stability did exist except for very short periods. As a result of these changes the gold Eagles struck from 1795 to 1804 were worth close to $10.63 in terms of the new coins of 1838. This provides some indication of the undervaluing of the original Eagles towards the end of their years of issue.

On March 3rd, 1849 with the tremendous increase in the quantity of yellow metal that became available after the discoveries of gold in California, two new denominations were introduced, the Gold Dollar and the Double Eagle. The only large coins available in the market place at that time were the gold coins of South and Central America. Both the Colonial and Republican issues were valued at $16.00 in terms of the Eagle standard. In order to maintain the decimal system and have a multiple of the Eagle, the Double Eagle came into being. These pieces effectively reduced our dependence on foreign gold coins.

A Word About The Eagles And Double Eagles In The Raymond J. Wayman Collection

In the process of forming this outstanding collection of Eagles and Double Eagles, Mr. Wayman gained a liberal education, as do most dedicated numismatists. He learned a few useful lessons about collecting these two series. One of these lessons is worth commenting upon for the benefit of those who may wish to follow his excellent example.

The numismatic standards Mr. Wayman set for himself were not easy. His twin goals were simply completeness combined with the highest quality. In the course of twenty years of collecting he found out these objectives were not compatible. One of them tended to cancel out the other. Every collector will recognize, when he stops to think about it, that the vast majority of dates and varieties of U. S. Gold Coins *do not exist in Uncirculated condition,* in spite of the fact that the grade may be listed in current reference books and sheets. A classic example of this is the Eagle. It is the singular most rare coin to obtain in Mint State. The series from 1840 to 1878 are particularly difficult and in some cases the "Finest Known" may only be Extremely Fine at best.

Another important point is "frequency of appearance." Although coins may be listed in current research material, the collector must be his own sleuth and find out how many times various coins appeared on the auction block. The knowledge of how many times the same coin appeared is also useful information, for that will give a clue as to how many are really extant.

As you peruse the pages of this catalogue you can easily see how much care was lavished in the formation of this collection. We cannot urge the collector too strongly to take advantage of this most unusual offering and obtain some of the coins which probably will not be on the market again for decades.

Although this collection is not complete there is one very important factor to take into consideration when leafing through the pages of this catalogue. *This is one of the finest groups of Eagles and Double Eagles ever sold at Public Auction!*

United States Eagles

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United States Eagles

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United States Double Eagles

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United States Double Eagles

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Pioneer & Territorial Gold Coins

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Pioneer & Territorial Gold Coins

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The Raymond J. Wayman Collection
of
U.S. Eagles & Double Eagles And An Important Collection Of Pioneer & Territorial Gold Coins

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SEPTEMBER 10, 1981

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Thursday Evening, September 10, 1981

7:00 P.M. Sharp

Lots 1 - 446

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CAPPED BUST RIGHT. HERALDIC EAGLE.

1797 - 1804

Lot No. 3

3 **1797** Large or Heraldic Eagle. The ever-present diecrack through the last 7 of date. **About Uncirculated** and a sensational example, with full frosty mint bloom and delicate orange toning.

Lot No. 4

4 **1799** Small obverse stars. **Brilliant Uncirculated** and nicely struck. Deep yellow gold with light coppery overtones. The rarer of the two varieties.

Lot No. 5

5 **1800** About Uncirculated, sharply struck, with considerable prooflike surface. Some light hairlines, mostly on the reverse. The obverse is really beautiful. Really quite scarce as only 5,999 were coined.

Lot No. 6

6 **1801** About Uncirculated. A lustrous example with some prooflike surface on the reverse. Light coppery toning.

MINT STATE 1803 EAGLE

Lot No. 7

7 **1803** Large reverse stars as on 1804. **Brilliant Uncirculated** with frosty mint lustre and not even a hint of prooflike surface (most unusual). A nicely struck example of this really scarce date. **(See Color Plate)**

MINT STATE 1804 EAGLE

Lot No. 8

8 **1804** The last year of the large size eagle. **Brilliant Uncirculated** with frosty lustre and a hint of prooflike surface. As is virtually always the case, this date was struck from severely damaged dies resulting in mounding in the field and weakness at the profile and a couple of stars. Beautiful deep yellow gold with light coppery toning. A rarity and especially so in this condition. **(See Color Plate)**

CORONET TYPE. SMALL HEAD. NO MOTTO.

1838 - 1839

Lot No. 9

9 **1838** The first year of the reduced size eagle. Extremely Fine and lustrous. This type with the small head is really quite rare as it was struck only in two years. **(See Color Plate)**

Lot No. 10

10 **1839** Large letters. The type of 1838. Extremely Fine and a very attractive coin with some prooflike surface on the reverse.

CORONET TYPE. LARGE HEAD. NO MOTTO.

1839 - 1866

11 1840 Extremely Fine, sharply struck. Light circulation marks.

12 1841 About Uncirculated. A needle-sharp strike. Rarely seen in this state of preservation.

Lot No. 13

13 **1841'O'** Extremely Fine, some lustre in the devices. Sharply struck and overall a superior example of this rare coin. Only 2,500 struck and when seen, they are usually in just Fine to Very Fine condition. Well worth a premium bid!

MINT STATE 1842 SMALL DATE EAGLE

Lot No. 14

14 **1842 Small date. Brilliant Uncirculated,** frosty and prooflike. A **superb** example, just a couple of bagmarks from the gem category. When David Akers wrote his excellent book on U. S. Eagles in 1980, he did not know of the existence of this piece. There isn't a single listing for this coin in Uncirculated condition in decades. This rarity is destined to realize a record bid. **(See Color Plate)**

15 1842 Large date. Extremely Fine and choice. Pale coppery toning with lustre in the devices. Scarce.

16 1842'O' Extremely Fine with some lustre in the protected portions. Really uncommon in this condition.

17 1843 Extremely Fine and choice. Deceptively scarce in this condition.

MINT STATE 1843'O' EAGLE

Lot No. 18

18 **1843'O' Brilliant Uncirculated.** Frosty mint lustre with some prooflike surface. The central portion weakly struck due to "mounding" or the die breaking. Some light bag abrasions but a lovely coin in greenish-yellow gold. *Ex Stack's December 1979 Sale, lot 892.*

Lot No. 19

19 **1844** Extremely Fine, some prooflike surface in the devices. Only 6,361 were coined. A rare coin, especially so in this condition.

20 1844'O' Extremely Fine and choice. Nearly full mint lustre. Far above average.

21 **1845** About Uncirculated, lightly cleaned. Deep yellow with coppery toning. Natural prooflike surface. A much underrated date!

Lot No. 22

22 **1845'O'** The date punched low and then placed in a more central position. **Choice Brilliant Uncirculated.** A borderline gem. We quote from Akers' book, "The 1845'O' is a rare date in any condition . . . and mint state examples are extremely rare." In fact, there are only three records at auction for an Uncirculated specimen since the Ten Eyck coin in 1922.

23 1846 Extremely Fine, pale orange toning. Another of the undervalued and unappreciated rarities of the No Motto eagles.

24 **1846/5'O'** Extremely Fine. Very scarce.

25 1847 About Uncirculated and a splendid coin, satiny with prooflike surfaces. Pale orange toning. A common date but not in this condition.

Lot No. 26

26 **1847'O' Gem Brilliant Uncirculated.** Although it has some bagmarks, the overall magnificent appearance along with its full lustre still merits calling this coin a gem. *Ex Stack's March 1981 Sale, lot 1224.* **(See Color Plate)**

27 1848 About Uncirculated, prooflike surface. Numerous light circulation marks but still very attractive.

28 1848'O' Extremely Fine or perhaps better. Struck from "blunted" dies as is the case with virtually all seen. Very scarce.

29 1849 Extremely Fine. A tiny reverse rim bruise.

Lot No. 30

30 **1849'O' About Uncirculated,** full mint lustre, satiny surface. A simply first-rate example of this rare date.

31 1850 About Uncirculated, frosty mint lustre. Scarce in this condition.

32 1850'O' Extremely Fine. A very attractive example in greenish-yellow gold.

33 1851 Extremely Fine. Lovely pale orange toning.

34 1851'O' Extremely Fine, lustrous in the devices.

Lot No. 35

35 **1852 Brilliant Uncirculated,** satiny surfaces. Splendid coppery-orange toning. A lovely example with but a scattering of bagmarks.

36 **1852'O'** A strong Extremely Fine with some prooflike surface in the devices. Very scarce.

37 1853 Extremely Fine and lustrous.

38 1853'O' About Uncirculated, frosty. Struck from severely buckled dies. By far, rarer than its mint record would suggest.

Lot No. 39

39 **1854** About Uncirculated and unusually well struck. Frosty mint lustre. Decidedly rare in this condition.

40 1854'O' Small date. Extremely Fine but delicately cleaned.

41 1854'S' Extremely Fine or perhaps better but numerous tiny circulation marks. The reverse stronger than the obverse as is always the case.

MINT STATE 1855 EAGLE

Lot No. 42

42 **1855 Brilliant Uncirculated,** frosty mint bloom, light bagmarks. The head and eagle particularly well struck.

Lot No. 43

43 **1855'O' About Uncirculated,** with considerable prooflike surface. Sharply impressed in greenish-yellow gold. A rare date in this condition.

SCARCE 1855'S' EAGLE

Lot No. 44

44 **1855'S'** Extremely Fine with mint lustre. A lovely coin and indeed quite rare. Only 9,000 were coined.

45 1856 About Uncirculated and very choice. Virtually full frosty lustre. The reverse is exceptionally nice.

CHOICE 1856'O' EAGLE

Lot No. 46

46 **1856'O'** About Uncirculated and a beauty. Sharply struck in yellow gold, with pale orange overtones. The reverse with prooflike surface.

Lot No. 47

47 **1856'S'** Large mintmark, oddly placed above the space between N D. About Uncirculated, frosty. The rarer of the two varieties.

48 1857 Extremely Fine. A very scarce date as only 16,606 were coined.

Lot No. 49

49 **1857'O'** Extremely Fine, light even wear. A small scratch between the 8th and 9th stars. Very scarce, low mint record of 5,500.

Lot No. 50

50 **1857'S' About Uncirculated** and very choice. A small bagmark touches the bottom of the mintmark. Rarely seen in this condition. In fact, only four listings in this quality in Akers' book.

RARE 1858 EAGLE

Lot No. 51

51 **1858 Extremely Fine.** Sharply struck and a choice example without a single defect. Pale coppery toning. Only about one percent are extant from the 2,521 coined, making this one of the rarest No Motto eagles. **(See Color Plate)**

52 1858'O' Extremely Fine and a lovely example in greenish-yellow gold. Pale orange toning.

SPLENDID 1858'S' EAGLE

Lot No. 53

53 **1858'S' About Uncirculated** and virtually unknown in this condition. Frosty lustre and excellent surfaces help to place this in the Condition Census.

SCARCE 1859 EAGLE

Lot No. 54

54 **1859** About Uncirculated. The central portion very sharply struck. A lustrous example of this very scarce date.

CHOICE 1859'O' EAGLE

Lot No. 55

55 **1859'O' Choice Extremely Fine** with claims to a higher grade. Sharply struck, with lustre in the protected portions. We quote from Akers' book, "The 1859'O' is the rarest 'O' Mint eagle and is actually one of the rarest dates in this entire 224 coin series." Well worth a bid in the $5,000.00 range.

RARE 1859'S' EAGLE

Lot No. 56

56 **1859'S'** Extremely Fine and an attractive coin with mint lustre. A rare coin and when seen, it is usually in a well-worn condition.

57 1860 About Uncirculated, frosty mint bloom. Really a rather scarce coin as only 15,105 were coined.

RARE 1860'O' EAGLE

Lot No. 58

58 **1860'O'** The last year of the No Motto eagle from the New Orleans Mint. About Uncirculated and a first-rate example of this rarity. Needle-sharp and wholly prooflike.

RARE 1860'S' EAGLE

Lot No. 59

59 **1860'S'** Extremely Fine, light even wear. Lustrous about the periphery. One of the major rarities of the entire series. Only 5,000 were coined.

60 1861 About Uncirculated, frosty lustre. Pale coppery toning.

61 1861'S' Extremely Fine. The mintmark rather prominent. Choice and very scarce.

62 1862 Extremely Fine, light even wear, no faults or defects. A very attractive coin and deceptively scarce.

63 1862'S' Extremely Fine. A small planchet flake on the cheek. Frosty and really a lovely coin.

RARE 1863 EAGLE

Lot No. 64

64 **1863** Extremely Fine, some prooflike surface in the devices. Sharply struck as is always the case since only 1,248 were coined. One of the classic rarities of the series.

Lot No. 65

65 **1863'S'** Just Extremely Fine, even wear, no damage. Very scarce and rarely seen better than this specimen.

RARE 1864 BRILLIANT PROOF EAGLE

Lot No. 66

66 **1864 Brilliant Proof.** From our Winner F. Delp Collection, November 1972, lot 811, catalogued as follows: "An outstanding specimen, just about free of hairlines. This coin is really lovely, with its frosty head and glittering surface. The Guidebook indicates 50 struck; if that is so (and we doubt it), then very few are extant. Lacking in most of the major collections sold in the last 30 years including the fabulous Wolfson Collection. Ex Walton Collection—to Charles Jay—to James Dines—to Mr. Delp. (All of these famous collections were sold by Stack's.) This outstanding specimen is surely worth a premium bid." **(See Color Plate)**

VERY RARE 1864'S' EAGLE

Lot No. 67

67 **1864'S'** Just Extremely Fine. The eagle's neck shows some wear due to "mounding" from a diebreak. Only 2,500 struck. Very rare!

RARE 1865 EAGLE

Lot No. 68

68 **1865** Extremely Fine, considerable prooflike surface. A small reverse rim dinge. A rare date.

1865'S' PERFECT DATE EAGLE

Lot No. 69

69 **1865'S'** Perfect date. Extremely Fine, nicely struck, with lustre in the devices. It has been determined that this is the rarer of the two varieties.

1865'S' OVER INVERTED 186 EAGLE

Lot No. 70

70 **1865'S' Over inverted 186.** The first three digits of the date were punched in the die upside down, partially effaced, then punched correctly. Extremely Fine and, by far, better than normally seen.

VERY RARE 1866'S' NO MOTTO EAGLE

Lot No. 71

71 **1866'S' No motto.** Extremely Fine. A very nice example with but a small scratch behind the head. A very rare coin with few appearances at Public Auction.

CORONET TYPE. LARGE HEAD. MOTTO.

1866 - 1907

Lot No. 72

72 **1866 Motto.** Extremely Fine, lovely frosty mint bloom. Very scarce as only 3,780 were struck.

Lot No. 73

73 **1866'S' Motto.** Extremely Fine, sharp and lustrous. Lovely pale coppery toning.

SPLENDID 1867 EAGLE

Lot No. 74

74 **1867 About Uncirculated,** full blazing mint lustre. One of the finest non-proofs we have ever seen or handled. Only three auction records for a coin of this calibre in many decades. A simply first-rate coin. *Ex Stack's June 1979 Sale, lot 423 (no envelope).*

Lot No. 75

75 **1867'S'** Extremely Fine, lustrous. A few light circulation marks but quite choice. A really rare coin with only three auction records in this condition.

Lot No. 76

76 **1868** About Uncirculated. The reverse with considerable prooflike surface. Scarce.

77 1868'S' A strong Extremely Fine, virtually a grade better. Sharply struck including the mintmark.

Lot No. 78

78 **1869** Extremely Fine and choice. Prooflike surface in the devices. One of the classic rarities of the series as only 1,855 were coined.

Lot No. 79

79 **1869'S' About Uncirculated.** A splendid coin with frosty lustre and pale orange toning. Really one of the finest to reach the market in decades.

RARE 1870 EAGLE

Lot No. 80

80 **1870** About Uncirculated, prooflike surface. The field magnifies the light circulation marks. A rare date!

VERY RARE 1870'CC' EAGLE

Lot No. 81

81 **1870'CC'** The first year of issue and probably the rarest eagle from this mint. In any event, the rarest based on condition. Extremely Fine, sharply struck including the mintmark. A lovely example which certainly falls within the Condition Census. **(See Color Plate)**

VERY RARE
MINT STATE 1870'S' EAGLE

Lot No. 82

82 **1870'S' Brilliant Uncirculated.** Full frosty mint bloom. Some light bagmarks which are to be expected. This coin was unknown to David Akers when compiling his list. To the best of our memory this is probably the first time we have handled a Mint State specimen of this date. **A great rarity! (See Color Plate)**

RARE 1871 EAGLE

Lot No. 83

83 **1871** About Uncirculated, considerable prooflike surface. Only 1,820 struck. Lightly polished but overall an excellent example of this rarity.

Lot No. 84

84 **1871'S' About Uncirculated,** frosty mint lustre, light bagmarks. Only one example in this condition is listed in Akers' book. That will give the collector an idea of how rare the coin is in this quality.

Lot No. 85

85 **1872** About Uncirculated. Frosty mint bloom with some prooflike surface. A very rare coin both from quantity struck and frequency of appearance (the two do not always coincide). An extremely attractive coin.

IMPORTANT 1872'CC' EAGLE

Lot No. 86

86 **1872'CC'** Extremely Fine, light even wear, no defects. Splendid even pale orange toning. A very important coin.

Lot No. 87

87 **1872'S' About Uncirculated,** sharply struck. Frosty with pale coppery toning. Really very scarce in this condition.

EXTREMELY RARE 1873 EAGLE

Lot No. 88

88 **1873** The second rarest date in the Liberty Head series. Only the 1875 is rarer. **Extremely Fine,** light even wear, with some prooflike surface in the devices. Of the 369 catalogues David Akers used in compiling his book, this date appeared only 12 times as a business strike. **(See Color Plate)**

RARE 1873'CC' EAGLE

Lot No. 89

89 **1873'CC'** Extremely Fine, mint frost, with delicate orange toning. A rare coin, seldom offered in this condition.

MINT STATE 1873'S' EAGLE

Lot No. 90

90 **1873'S' Brilliant Uncirculated,** full blazing lustre. A profusion of light bagmarks but the cataloguer is firmly convinced that this coin never saw circulation. Unlisted in Akers' book, this may be the only Mint State specimen extant. **(See Color Plate)**

91 1874 About Uncirculated. A prooflike example, needle-sharp in strike. Really a beauty.

Lot No. 92

92 **1874'CC'** A very choice Extremely Fine with frosty lustre. The reverse is fully a grade better. The coin was purchased as About Uncirculated and it is easy to see why.

93 1874'S' Extremely Fine, lovely light orange toning. Scarce.

SPLENDID 1875'CC' EAGLE

Lot No. 94

94 **1875'CC'** About Uncirculated. A lustrous example, especially nice since this date is characteristically weakly struck and with rounded edges, therefore, not affording the devices any protection. Some light coppery toning on the reverse. Rare in this condition.

EXTREMELY RARE 1876 EAGLE

Lot No. 95

95 **1876** A choice **Extremely Fine,** light even wear, no defects or faults. Prooflike surface in the devices. A most attractive example of this great rarity. The 1876 has the second lowest mintage of any Liberty Head eagle (732). Its rarity is virtually commensurate with the quantity struck. **(See Color Plate)**

Lot No. 96

96 **1876'CC'** Extremely Fine and very choice. Like the 1875'CC', these are weakly struck, with similar edges as well, which often creates difficulty in grading them. (This specimen was bought as About Uncirculated.) Really rare as only five listings appear for Extremely Fine or better.

RARE 1876'S' EAGLE

Lot No. 97

97 **1876'S'** Extremely Fine with full frosty lustre. A splendid example of this rare date. Only 5,000 were coined.

EXTREMELY RARE 1877 EAGLE

Lot No. 98

98 **1877 Extremely Fine** with claims to a higher grade. A choice specimen, sharply struck, with considerable prooflike surface. A sensational coin of which only 817 were struck. **(See Color Plate)**

CHOICE 1877'CC' EAGLE

Lot No. 99

99 **1877'CC'** Extremely Fine, frosty mint bloom. The strike and edges like the 1875'CC' and 1876'CC'. A very choice specimen. Only 3,332 were coined.

Lot No. 100

100 **1877'S'** Extremely Fine, excellent surfaces and edges. Lustrous with delicate coppery toning.

101 1878 Choice Brilliant Uncirculated, lovely light coppery toning. Really an uncommon date in Mint State.

SPLENDID 1878'CC' EAGLE

Lot No. 102

102 **1878'CC'** Extremely Fine and very choice. Like the others just mentioned, the same problems plague this Carson City date. A truly splendid example of the third rarest 'CC' Mint eagle.

103 1878'S' Extremely Fine and very scarce.

104 1879 Brilliant Uncirculated and frosty.

VERY RARE 1879'CC' EAGLE

Lot No. 105

105 **1879'CC'** Extremely Fine with prooflike surface. This date has the lowest mintage of any Carson City eagle. A very rare coin.

VERY RARE 1879'O' EAGLE

Lot No. 106

106 **1879'O'** Extremely Fine, the reverse gives the appearance of a grade better. Sharply struck, with prooflike surface. Only 1,500 struck.

107 1879'S' About Uncirculated and frosty.

NOTE: The following run of Liberty Head eagles is for the most part, Brilliant Uncirculated. Although they have bagmarks, great care was used in selecting them. Therefore, they really are above average. The coins virtually free from these marks will be so noted as will those that have more than a reasonable number of bagmarks.

108 1880 Brilliant Uncirculated, blazing lustre.

109 1880'CC' About Uncirculated with mint lustre. Scarce.

110 1880'O' About Uncirculated, light coppery toning. Low mintage and quite scarce.

111 1880'S' Brilliant Uncirculated, slightly more bagmarked.

112 1881 Brilliant Uncirculated, frosty. Nicely struck.

CHOICE 1881'C' EAGLE

Lot No. 113

113 **1881'CC'** Choice Brilliant Uncirculated, mostly prooflike. Sharply struck and really attractive.

SCARCE 1881'O' EAGLE

Lot No. 114

114 **1881'O'** About Uncirculated, sharply struck, with prooflike surface. Very scarce in this condition.

115 1881'S' Brilliant Uncirculated. Full blazing lustre.

116 1882 Brilliant Uncirculated, full lustre. Sharply struck.

Lot No. 117

117 **1882'CC'** About Uncirculated and a very choice example. Really very scarce and much underrated. Only 6,764 were struck.

MINT STATE 1882'O' EAGLE

Lot No. 118

118 **1882'O' Choice Brilliant Uncirculated.** A few hairlines but nevertheless a splendid example of this rare date. In the whole year of 1980 not a single specimen was sold at auction in any condition.

119 1882'S' About Uncirculated, full frosty lustre. Very scarce.

120 1883 About Uncirculated. Frosty and slightly prooflike.

SUPERB 1883'CC' EAGLE

Lot No. 121

121 **1883'CC'** About Uncirculated and very choice. It displays no wear. Lovely satiny surfaces. A superb specimen!

VERY RARE 1883'O' EAGLE

Lot No. 122

122 **1883'O'** Extremely Fine, deep gold with greenish overtones. Only 800 struck making this the lowest mintage of any New Orleans eagle as well as any branch mint eagle. **(See Color Plate)**

MINT STATE 1883'S' EAGLE

Lot No. 123

123 **1883'S'** Brilliant Uncirculated, some light bagmarks but nearly in the gem category. Very scarce and decidedly underrated.

124 1884 About Uncirculated, slightly prooflike.

125 1884'CC' About Uncirculated, lightly cleaned. Splendid even pale orange toning. Rare.

126 1884'S' About Uncirculated, fully lustrous. Actually the coin probably never saw circulation. Just a few too many bagmarks to call it Mint State. Scarce.

127 1885 Brilliant Uncirculated and choice.

128 1885'S' About Uncirculated. Full mint lustre.

RARE 1886 BRILLIANT PROOF EAGLE

Lot No. 129

129 **1886 Brilliant Proof.** *60 specimens struck.* From our Garrett Sale, where it was catalogued as follows: "Brilliant Proof. Coppery-yellow toning. A beautiful specimen, with only two records of sale, our DiBello and Ullmer Sales." *Ex Stack's Garrett Sale, March 1976, lot 495.* **(See Color Plate)**

130 1886'S' Brilliant Uncirculated and a choice specimen.

131 1887'S' Brilliant Uncirculated, some bag abrasions.

132 1887'S' Another. About Uncirculated.

133 1888 About Uncirculated and decidedly uncommon.

Lot No. 134

134 **1888'O' Choice Brilliant Uncirculated.** Full frosty mint bloom. Sharply struck.

135 1888'S' Choice Brilliant Uncirculated.

136 **1889** Choice About Uncirculated, full mint bloom. Purchased as Uncirculated with good cause. A very scarce, low mintage (4,485) item.

137 1889'S' Brilliant Uncirculated, satiny surface.

138 1890 Brilliant Uncirculated, lightly bagmarked. Pale orange toning. Really quite scarce.

139 **1890'CC' Brilliant Uncirculated,** wholly prooflike. The light bagmarks magnified by the brilliant surface.

140 1891 Brilliant Uncirculated. A very attractive coin with pale coppery toning.

Lot No. 141

141 **1891'CC' Choice Brilliant Uncirculated.** Full blazing lustre. Sharply struck.

142 1892 Choice Brilliant Uncirculated.

Lot No. 143

143 **1892'CC' Choice Brilliant Uncirculated,** mottled coppery toning. A very scarce coin in this condition.

Lot No. 144

144 **1892'O' Choice Brilliant Uncirculated,** pale iridescent toning. Sharply struck.

145 1892'S' Brilliant Uncirculated. Sharply struck.

146 1893 Brilliant Uncirculated, frosty lustre.

147 **1893'CC'** About Uncirculated and lustrous. Very scarce and rarer than its low mint record would suggest.

148 1893'O' Brilliant Uncirculated, frosty lustre. Some light bag abrasions.

149 1893'S' About Uncirculated.

150 1894 Brilliant Uncirculated. Sharply struck.

151 1894'O' Brilliant Uncirculated, light bagmarks.

Lot No. 152

152 **1894'S' Brilliant Uncirculated.** Some light bagmarks but strictly Mint State and really very scarce in this condition. According to Akers' book, the last Mint State specimen to reach the auction market was at our R. L. Miles, Jr. Sale in 1968!

153 1895 Choice Brilliant Uncirculated, pale orange toning.

154 1895'O' Brilliant Uncirculated. A small nick on the reverse edge.

155 **1895'S'** About Uncirculated, bagmarked obverse. The reverse is very nice. Scarce.

Lot No. 156

156 **1896 Choice Brilliant Uncirculated.** A virtual gem with pale coppery toning. Really a very scarce coin, especially so in this condition.

157 1896'S' Extremely Fine and frosty. Scarce.

158 1897 Brilliant Uncirculated, full mint frost.

159 1897'O' Brilliant Uncirculated, light bag abrasions. Frosty and most attractive.

160 **1897'S'** Brilliant Uncirculated. Some light bagmarks but a lovely coin with rich coppery toning. Scarce and underrated.

161 1898 Brilliant Uncirculated, light toning.

162 1898'S' About Uncirculated and choice.

163 1899 Brilliant Uncirculated, pale coppery toning.

Lot No. 164

164 **1899'O'** Brilliant Uncirculated, sharply struck. Greenish-coppery toning. Scarce.

165 1899'S' Brilliant Uncirculated. Light bag abrasions but a dazzling coin.

166 1900 Brilliant Uncirculated, pale coppery toning.

167 1900'S' Brilliant Uncirculated, some small rim nicks. Very scarce.

168 1901 Choice Brilliant Uncirculated. Beautiful coppery toning.

169 1901'O' About Uncirculated and choice.

170 1901'S' Choice Brilliant Uncirculated.

171 1902 Brilliant Uncirculated and really scarce.

172 1902'S' Choice Brilliant Uncirculated. A virtual gem.

173 1903 Choice Brilliant Uncirculated, deep coppery-yellow gold. Scarce.

174 1903'O' Brilliant Uncirculated, light coppery toning.

175 1903'S' Choice Brilliant Uncirculated. Lovely satiny surfaces.

176 1904 About Uncirculated, frosty.

177 1904'O' Brilliant Uncirculated, full mint bloom. Light coppery toning.

178 1905 About Uncirculated, coppery toning.

179 1905'S' Brilliant Uncirculated, pale coppery toning.

180 1906 Choice Brilliant Uncirculated, satiny surface.

181 1906'D' Choice Brilliant Uncirculated, satiny surface. Pale coppery toning.

182 1906'O' Brilliant Uncirculated, frosty, with light bagmarks.

183 1906'S' Brilliant Uncirculated, some bag abrasions.

184 1907 Liberty head. Brilliant Uncirculated, frosty lustre.

185 1907'D' Choice Brilliant Uncirculated, light toning.

186 1907'S' Brilliant Uncirculated, bagmarks in the field.

U. S. INDIAN HEAD EAGLES ($10.00 GOLD)

The following Indian Head eagles, like the Liberty Head series in this sale, have light bagmarks which are common to the coins. They were, however, also carefully chosen for the least amount of bagmarks or abrasions. They are overall a superior group. Those coins which vary considerably, one way or the other, will be so noted.

INDIAN HEAD. NO MOTTO.

1907 - 1908

VERY RARE

1907 WIRE EDGE WITH PERIODS EAGLE

Lot No. 187

187 **1907** The very rare variety with WIRE EDGE AND PERIODS before and after each word on the reverse: •UNITED•STATES•OF• AMERICA•/•TEN•DOLLARS•/•E•PLURIBUS•UNUM• This specimen is **Brilliant Uncirculated** with a surface which closely resembles the "Roman Finish" Proofs. A choice specimen with some tiny reverse rim nicks. **(See Color Plate)**

188 1907 No periods. Choice Brilliant Uncirculated, coppery toning.

189 **1908 No motto.** Brilliant Uncirculated. Frosty and nicely struck. Decidedly underrated.

Lot No. 190

190 **1908'D' No motto.** Brilliant Uncirculated, frosty lustre. A rather sharp strike. A very scarce and attractive coin.

INDIAN HEAD. MOTTO.

1908 - 1933

191 1908 Motto. Brilliant Uncirculated. Sharply struck in yellow gold with a coppery tint.

192 1908'D' Motto. Brilliant Uncirculated. A few more bagmarks than usual. Full mint bloom.

193 **1908'S'** About Uncirculated and choice. Frosty lustre and a sharp strike. Very scarce.

194 1909 About Uncirculated, orange toning.

195 1909'D' About Uncirculated and very choice. Really a very scarce coin.

Lot No. 196

196 **1909'S'** Brilliant Uncirculated. Full lustre and a splendid strike. A very scarce date.

197 1910 Brilliant Uncirculated. A lovely coin with pale orange toning.

198 1910'D' Brilliant Uncirculated. Sharply struck.

Lot No. 199

199 **1910'S' Choice Brilliant Uncirculated.** A beautiful example of this very scarce date. Even the mintmark is boldly struck.

200 1911 Brilliant Uncirculated, light orange toning.

Lot No. 201

201 **1911'D'** Brilliant Uncirculated. A few more bagmarks but still a very nice, sharply struck example of this scarce date.

202 1911'S' About Uncirculated. A couple of small obverse rim nicks. Scarce.

203 1912 Brilliant Uncirculated, rich coppery toning.

Lot No. 204

204 **1912'S'** Brilliant Uncirculated, frosty mint bloom. A lovely example, sharply struck, with delicate orange toning. One of the most difficult coins to locate in this condition.

205 1913 Brilliant Uncirculated. A choice example with light toning.

206 **1913'S'** About Uncirculated, frosty mint lustre, sharply struck. One of the rarest dates of the series.

207 1914 Choice Brilliant Uncirculated. Sharply struck.

208 1914'D' Choice Brilliant Uncirculated. Light coppery iridescent toning.

209 1914'S' Brilliant Uncirculated. Slightly more bagmarked than usual but still Mint State. Really quite scarce.

210 1915 Choice Brilliant Uncirculated, superb toning. A needle-sharp strike.

Lot No. 211

211 **1915'S'** Brilliant Uncirculated. The central portion a trifle weak as usual but **far** above average. Superb light coppery-orange toning. Rare!

Lot No. 212

212 **1916'S' Choice Brilliant Uncirculated.** Sharply struck for the coin. One small bagmark on the rim under the 9. A very attractive coin.

VERY RARE 1920'S' EAGLE

Lot No. 213

213 **1920'S' Brilliant Uncirculated.** We quote Akers, "Many specimens of this date are weakly struck at RTY of LIBERTY." This coin is no exception. Some light bagmarks before the face. The coin displays full frosty mint bloom and overall is a very attractive example of this rarity. This date was never discovered in a hoard so that a specimen such as this is truly very rare. **(See Color Plate)**

214 1926 Brilliant Uncirculated, lustrous.

VERY RARE 1930'S' EAGLE

Lot No. 215

215 **1930'S' Choice Brilliant Uncirculated.** In fact, a virtual gem. A sensational strike with full blazing lustre and delicate toning. **(See Color Plate)**

216 1932 Choice Brilliant Uncirculated. Pale orange toning.

U. S. DOUBLE EAGLES ($20.00 GOLD)

This collection of Double Eagles, like the Eagles in this sale, ranks among the best we have ever seen or sold. As we have mentioned before, most of the coins have bagmarks associated with coins of this size and weight; however, Mr. Wayman was extremely particular and tried his best to collect the finest available. Those coins which vary considerably, one way or the other, will be so noted.

LIBERTY HEAD. NO MOTTO. "TWENTY D."

1850 - 1866

MINT STATE 1850 DOUBLE EAGLE

Lot No. 217

217 **1850** The first year of issue. **Brilliant Uncirculated.** A "First Strike" with prooflike surface. A magnificent impression with full radial lines and a partial wire edge.

218 1850'O' Extremely Fine and choice. Excellent surfaces and edges.

MINT STATE 1851 DOUBLE EAGLE

Lot No. 219

219 **1851 Choice Brilliant Uncirculated.** A virtual gem. Full blazing lustre, sharply struck, and a beauty in every respect.

220 1851'O' About Uncirculated. Sharply struck, with prooflike surface in the protected portions. Choice.

Lot No. 221

221 **1852 Choice Brilliant Uncirculated.** A sharply struck example with full blazing lustre. A far above average example of this coin.

MINT STATE 1852'O' DOUBLE EAGLE

Lot No. 222

222 **1852'O' Brilliant Uncirculated.** Nicely struck in yellow gold with a slight coppery tint. Considerable prooflike surface with light hairlines. A truly splendid coin. **(See Color Plate)**

MINT STATE 1853 DOUBLE EAGLE

Lot No. 223

223 **1853 Choice Brilliant Uncirculated.** Some light hairlines from old cleaning. A superb strike with even light orange toning.

Lot No. 224

224 **1853'O'** Extremely Fine. Perfectly struck with superb surfaces and edges. Very scarce.

CHOICE 1854 DOUBLE EAGLE

Lot No. 225

225 **1854 Choice Brilliant Uncirculated.** Frosty lustre with light coppery toning.

GEM 1854'S' DOUBLE EAGLE

Lot No. 226

226 **1854'S' Gem Brilliant Uncirculated.** Frosty and satiny with delicate coppery toning. A simply first-rate example of the first type of double eagle as well as the first year of issue from the San Francisco Mint. **(See Color Plate)**

Lot No. 227

227 **1855 Brilliant Uncirculated,** frosty mint bloom. Just a few too many bagmarks to call it choice, but it certainly is close.

RARE 1855'O' DOUBLE EAGLE

Lot No. 228

228 **1855'O'** Extremely Fine and a lovely example of this rarity. Considerable prooflike surface. No defects of any nature, just light even wear. **Only 8,000 coined. (See Color Plate)**

Lot No. 229

229 **1855'S'** Medium 'S'. **Brilliant Uncirculated** and probably from the same small hoard that the two specimens in our June 1979 sale came from.

230 1856 About Uncirculated. Sharply struck and lustrous.

Lot No. 231

231 **1856'S' Brilliant Uncirculated.** A lustrous example and a rather decent strike. Pale coppery toning.

Lot No. 232

232 **1857 Brilliant Uncirculated,** full frosty lustre. The right portion stronger than the left but only marginally so.

Lot No. 233

233 **1857'O'** Extremely Fine with claims to a higher grade. Prooflike surface, with the light wear magnified. Lovely greenish-coppery toning.

234 1857'S' About Uncirculated. Full blazing mint lustre.

MINT STATE 1858 DOUBLE EAGLE

Lot No. 235

235 **1858 Choice Brilliant Uncirculated.** A splendid, needle-sharp example with full mint lustre and miniscule bagmarks in the obverse field. The reverse only has a bagmark or two. A premium coin worthy of a record price, in fact, not a single Mint State example was sold at Public Auction in all of 1980. **(See Color Plate)**

SCARCE 1858'O' DOUBLE EAGLE

Lot No. 236

236 **1858'O'** About Uncirculated, prooflike surface. An extremely sharp strike. Very scarce

MINT STATE 1858'S' DOUBLE EAGLE

Lot No. 237

237 **1858'S' Brilliant Uncirculated,** frosty lustre. Light coppery toning and a very nice strike.

Lot No. 238

238 **1859** About Uncirculated, frosty, with some prooflike surface. One of the most underrated coins in the entire series in this condition.

RARE 1859'O' DOUBLE EAGLE

Lot No. 239

239 **1859'O'** Extremely Fine and rarely found better. Nicely struck, with prooflike surface. Only 9,100 were struck. Rare.

240 1859'S' About Uncirculated and a lovely coin with pale orange toning.

Lot No. 241

241 **1860 Brilliant Uncirculated.** Some very faint signs of old cleaning. Exquisite even light orange toning over full frosty lustre.

RARE 1860'O' DOUBLE EAGLE

Lot No. 242

242 **1860'O'** Extremely Fine. Nicely strustruck in greenish-yellow gold. Of the 6,600 coined only few are extant; probably not more than 2% survived.

243 1860'S' About Uncirculated. Delicately cleaned on the obverse, the reverse is superb.

Lot No. 244

244 **1861 Brilliant Uncirculated.** A few tiny scattered marks but still a **gem.** Perfectly struck with a satiny prooflike surface. **(See Color Plate)**

RARE 1861'O' DOUBLE EAGLE

Lot No. 245

245 **1861'O'** Extremely Fine, the reverse with prooflike surface. Some bagmarks at the fourth star. Struck in the typical greenish-yellow gold that one does not have to look at the reverse to tell it was struck in New Orleans.

246 1861'S' About Uncirculated, lustrous.

1861'S' PAQUET REVERSE DOUBLE EAGLE

Lot No. 247

247 **1861'S'** The reverse designed by **A. C. Paquet,** with **TALL LETTERS.** This experimental reverse was used only in 1861. It was found unacceptable because of the rim design which afforded poor protection for the rest of the coin. **Extremely Fine** or perhaps a trifle better. Considerable frosty lustre with excellent surfaces and edges. Our June 1979 specimen virtually as nice realized $5,500.00. **(See Color Plate)**

248 1862 About Uncirculated, nicely struck. Really a "sleeper" in the series.

Lot No. 249

249 **1862'S' Choice Brilliant Uncirculated.** Frosty and satiny surfaces. A splendid strike of this normally weak coin.

250 1863 About Uncirculated. Mostly frosty with a hint of prooflike surface.

Lot No. 251

251 **1863'S' Brilliant Uncirculated** but a little more bagmarked than usual. Still Mint State and scarce thus.

252 1864 About Uncirculated, some light tooling on the cheek and neck. The reverse is lovely.

253 1864'S' About Uncirculated, rich coppery-orange toning. Sharply struck and very choice.

Lot No. 254

254 **1865 Brilliant Uncirculated.** The obverse is prooflike with some heavier bagmarks than usual. The reverse frosty and very choice.

Lot No. 255

255 **1865'S' Brilliant Uncirculated.** Frosty and unusually sharp.

LIBERTY HEAD. MOTTO. "TWENTY D."

1866 - 1876

256 1866 Motto. About Uncirculated. A prooflike "First Strike." The bagmarks magnified by the surface. A lovely example of this first year of the type.

MINT STATE 1866'S' MOTTO DOUBLE EAGLE

Lot No. 257

257 **1866'S' Motto.** Choice Brilliant Uncirculated. Blazing frosty mint bloom, satiny surface, and sharply struck. Rarely seen in this condition.

MINT STATE 1867 DOUBLE EAGLE

Lot No. 258

258 **1867** Brilliant Uncirculated. The obverse with more bagmarks than the reverse. Full mint lustre.

259 1867'S' About Uncirculated, frosty, with pale coppery toning.

260 1868 About Uncirculated and lustrous. The reverse gives the appearance of Mint State.

Lot No. 261

261 **1868'S'** Brilliant Uncirculated, full lustre. Really a rare coin in this condition. Pale coppery toning.

Lot No. 262

262 **1869** Brilliant Uncirculated. The obverse with light abrasions, the reverse virtually perfect. Lovely pale orange toning.

263 1869'S' About Uncirculated. Lustrous and choice.

264 1870 About Uncirculated. A frosty example, sharply struck. Scarce.

265 1870'S' About Uncirculated. A choice example with pale toning.

266 **1871** About Uncirculated. Lustrous and slightly prooflike surfaces. Really quite scarce.

RARE 1871'CC' DOUBLE EAGLE

Lot No. 267

267 **1871'CC'** Extremely Fine, light even wear, no defects or damage. The reverse with considerable prooflike surface. Rare and in great demand.

Lot No. 268

268 **1871'S'** Brilliant Uncirculated. A lovely coin with some tarnish before and touching the diadem. Sharply impressed, with pale coppery toning.

SCARCE 1872 DOUBLE EAGLE

Lot No. 269

269 **1872** Choice Brilliant Uncirculated. A splendid example of this scarce date, both in strike and overall appearance.

270 **1872'CC'** Extremely Fine. A small obverse edge bruise at the fourth star. Pale coppery toning. Very scarce.

Lot No. 271

271 **1872'S' Brilliant Uncirculated.** A few more bagmarks but a nice coin nevertheless. Fairly scarce.

MINT STATE 1873 CLOSED 3 DOUBLE EAGLE

Lot No. 272

272 **1873 Closed 3. Choice Brilliant Uncirculated,** russet and orange over frosty lustre. A scarce variety virtually unknown in Mint State!

273 1873 Open 3. About Uncirculated, frosty.

SCARCE 1873'CC' DOUBLE EAGLE

Lot No. 274

274 **1873'CC'** About Uncirculated. The usual flat strike. A lustrous example of this very scarce date. Only 22,410 were coined.

275 1873'S' Brilliant Uncirculated. Some bagmarks before the neck but a choice example.

276 1874'CC' About Uncirculated, prooflike surface obverse and reverse. A very choice coin.

277 1874'S' Brilliant Uncirculated and choice. Pale coppery toning.

278 1874'S' Another. About Uncirculated.

279 1875 Brilliant Uncirculated. Some more bagmarks on the obverse, virtually none on the reverse.

Lot No. 280

280 **1875'CC'** Choice Brilliant Uncirculated, full blazing lustre. A very attractive coin.

281 1875'S' About Uncirculated. Full frosty lustre.

282 1876 Brilliant Uncirculated. The bagmarks more obvious because of the prooflike surface.

283 1876'CC' About Uncirculated, wholly prooflike. The reverse especially dazzling.

Lot No. 284

284 **1876'S' Gem** Brilliant Uncirculated. A few tiny contact marks but really a beauty.

LIBERTY HEAD. MOTTO. "TWENTY DOLLARS."

1877 - 1907

285 1877 Brilliant Uncirculated. Full mint lustre.

286 **1877'CC'** About Uncirculated, full lustre. Virtually in the Mint State category.

287 1877'S' Brilliant Uncirculated. A profusion of tiny bagmarks on the obverse. The reverse is lovely.

288 1878 Brilliant Uncirculated. Some heavier bagmarks on the obverse

MINT STATE 1878'CC' DOUBLE EAGLE

Lot No. 289

289 **1878'CC'** Brilliant Uncirculated, wholly prooflike. There is some friction in the field but this coin never saw circulation. It is truly sensational and worthy of a home in any collection. This has to be in the Condition Census.

290 1878'S' Brilliant Uncirculated. The bagmarks slightly more obvious.

291 1879 Brilliant Uncirculated. Frosty and slightly prooflike.

VERY RARE 1879'O' DOUBLE EAGLE

Lot No. 292

292 **1879'O'** Extremely Fine, frosty, with some prooflike surface. Only 2,325 were struck making it a rare date; however, of greater interest is that it is the only New Orleans Mint double eagle with motto. A splendid item for the type collector. **(See Color Plate)**

SENSATIONAL 1879'CC' DOUBLE EAGLE

Lot No. 293

293 **1879'CC' Choice Brilliant Uncirculated.** Full blazing lustre with proof-like surface. The cataloguer cannot recall ever seeing a better specimen. Rare as only 10,708 were coined but of inestimable importance in this condition. **(See Color Plate)**

294 1879'S' Brilliant Uncirculated, coppery toning. More bagmarks than usual.

295 1880 About Uncirculated, lustrous. Scarce.

Lot No. 296

296 **1880'S' Gem** Brilliant Uncirculated. Satiny and frosty, pale coppery toning. A beauty!

VERY RARE 1881 DOUBLE EAGLE

Lot No. 297

297 **1881** About Uncirculated, prooflike, with the circulation marks magnified by the surface. Only 2,260 were struck. The first of a rather impressive string of Philadelphia Mint rarities. **(See Color Plate)**

298 1881'S' Brilliant Uncirculated, noticeable bagmarks.

EXTREMELY RARE 1882 DOUBLE EAGLE

Lot No. 299

299 **1882** About Uncirculated, wholly prooflike. Splendid russet-orange toning. A few miniscule bagmarks. An extremely choice example of this great rarity. Only 571 "business strikes" which is **the lowest mintage of any double eagle struck for circulation.** With a coin of this calibre it is important to discuss "frequency of appearance." One of the more curious happenings was that prior to our Robison Sale in 1979, the last specimen we offered was in our October 1970 Sale. However, we had the good fortune in offering three different specimens in 1979. This is the first we've had since our Auction '79 Sale and we believe this is the first offered at auction nation-wide since then. One of the Classic Rarities of the entire gold series. **(See Color Plate)**

300 1882'CC' About Uncirculated and prooflike. The reverse is exceptionally nice.

301 1882'S' Brilliant Uncirculated. Light orange toning.

Lot No. 302

302 **1883'CC'** Brilliant Uncirculated, frosty mint bloom. Nicely struck, with pale russet toning.

303 1883'S' About Uncirculated and lustrous.

Lot No. 304

304 **1884'CC'** Brilliant Uncirculated, frosty. Light bag abrasions but very nice and sharply struck.

305 1884'S' Brilliant Uncirculated, coppery-russet toning. A small tarnish spot by the nose.

VERY RARE 1885 DOUBLE EAGLE

Lot No. 306

306 **1885** About Uncirculated, prooflike, with the circulation marks more pronounced because of the glittering surface. Only 751 were struck for circulation and of that probably only a dozen or so are extant. Only one specimen was offered at auction in the entire year of 1980. **(See Color Plate)**

Lot No. 307

307 **1885'CC'** About Uncirculated, full lustre, with some prooflike surface. A couple of noticeable bagmarks on the cheek as well as other lighter ones, but overall a lovely coin that saw circulation briefly, if at all. Rare

308 1885'S' Brilliant Uncirculated, pale coppery toning.

VERY RARE 1886 DOUBLE EAGLE

Lot No. 309

309 **1886** Extremely Fine and choice. Prooflike in the devices, considerably so on the reverse. A rarity as only 1,000 were coined for circulation and very rare because only the Philadelphia Mint struck coins this year, making it a **must** for the one-of-a-date collector. Only two records of sale in 1980. **(See Color Plate)**

EXTREMELY RARE
1887 PROOF DOUBLE EAGLE

Lot No. 310

310 **1887 Brilliant Proof.** *121 specimens struck.* **The entire issuance consisted of Proofs only!** A great rarity which appeared on the auction block only few times in the past few decades. This specimen has a few hairlines but is fully two-tone and sharply struck in deep yellow gold. A lovely coin which will no doubt realize a record bid. **(See Color Plate)**

311 1887'S' About Uncirculated. A choice example with nice surfaces.

312 1888 Choice Brilliant Uncirculated. A scarce coin with light bagmarks.

313 1888'S' Brilliant Uncirculated. Some more noticeable bagmarks before the face but overall a frosty and attractive specimen.

314 **1889** About Uncirculated, lustrous. Coppery-russet toning. Scarce.

Lot No. 315

315 **1889'CC'** Choice Brilliant Uncirculated. A lovely coin with light orange-russet toning. Very scarce, especially this well struck.

316 1889'S' Brilliant Uncirculated. Sharp and lustrous.

317 1890 Brilliant Uncirculated, russet toning. Really a rather scarce date.

Lot No. 318

318 **1890'CC'** Brilliant Uncirculated, frosty, with pale coppery toning.

319 1890'S' Choice Brilliant Uncirculated, rich coppery toning. The stars not fully struck-up.

VERY RARE 1891 DOUBLE EAGLE

Lot No. 320

320 **1891** About Uncirculated and choice. Wholly prooflike, with the circulation marks a little more obvious because of the surface. Sharply struck. Very rare as only 1,442 were struck including proofs.

RARE 1891'CC' DOUBLE EAGLE

Lot No. 321

321 **1891'CC'** About Uncirculated with full mint lustre and prooflike surface. The cataloguer is not wholly convinced that this coin saw circulation. It just has a few too many light bagmarks to call it Mint State. A really choice example of this rarity which is seldom seen in this condition.

322 1891'S' Brilliant Uncirculated, pale coppery toning.

VERY RARE 1892 DOUBLE EAGLE

Lot No. 323

323 **1892** About Uncirculated, full blazing lustre. Like the 1891'CC', there is a question whether it saw circulation because the reverse is splendid and shows no sign of wear. In either case the coin is beautiful and rare.

Lot No. 324

324 **1892'CC'** Choice Brilliant Uncirculated. Satiny with some prooflike surface. Light coppery-russet toning.

325 1892'S' Choice Brilliant Uncirculated. Superb coppery toning.

326 1893 Choice Brilliant Uncirculated. Frosty and rather scarce.

EXCEPTIONAL 1893'CC' DOUBLE EAGLE

Lot No. 327

327 **1893'CC'** Choice Brilliant Uncirculated. Light purple-coppery toning. An exceptional example, nearly in the gem category.

328 1893'S' Brilliant Uncirculated. Fully lustrous.

329 1894 Brilliant Uncirculated. A few more bagmarks than usual.

330 1894'S' Choice Brilliant Uncirculated. Deep russet-orange toning.

331 1895 Choice Brilliant Uncirculated, satiny and frosty.

332 1895'S' Choice Brilliant Uncirculated.

333 1896 Brilliant Uncirculated, prooflike surfaces.

334 1896'S' Brilliant Uncirculated. Frosty mint bloom.

335 1897 Choice Brilliant Uncirculated. Satiny surfaces.

336 1897'S' Choice Brilliant Uncirculated. Satiny surfaces.

337 1898 Brilliant Uncirculated. An uncommon date.

338 1898'S' Choice Brilliant Uncirculated. Pale russet toning.

339 1899 Brilliant Uncirculated. Rich coppery and iridescent toning.

340 1899'S' Brilliant Uncirculated, gently cleaned.

341 1900 Choice Brilliant Uncirculated, frosty.

342 1900'S' Brilliant Uncirculated and lustrous.

343 1901 Brilliant Uncirculated, coppery toning. Scarce.

344 1901'S' Brilliant Uncirculated, deep yellow gold.

SCARCE 1902 DOUBLE EAGLE

Lot No. 345

345 **1902** Brilliant Uncirculated. Slightly more bagmarks than usual. A very scarce date.

346 1902'S' About Uncirculated.

347 1903 Brilliant Uncirculated. A tiny bagmark or two but a beautifully toned **gem.**

348 1903'S' Brilliant Uncirculated.

RARE 1904 PROOF DOUBLE EAGLE

Lot No. 349

349 **1904 Brilliant Proof.** *98 specimens struck.* Sharp wire edge. Struck in deep yellow gold. A lovely example of this rare double eagle. *Ex Stack's Lloyd A. Myers Sale, December 1972, lot 743.* **(See Color Plate)**

350 1904'S' Brilliant Uncirculated and a very nice specimen.

351 1905 About Uncirculated, lustrous. A scarce date.

352 1905'S' Brilliant Uncirculated.

Lot No. 353

353 **1906** Choice Brilliant Uncirculated. A frosty example of this scarce date.

354 1906'D' Brilliant Uncirculated, lightly cleaned.

355 1906'S' Brilliant Uncirculated. Nicely struck.

356 1907 Liberty head. Brilliant Uncirculated. Superb surfaces, lovely toning.

357 1907'D' Brilliant Uncirculated, greenish-yellow toning.

358 1907'S' Brilliant Uncirculated, lustrous.

SAINT-GAUDENS. ROMAN NUMERALS. HIGH RELIEF

1907

EXTREMELY RARE

1907 ROMAN NUMERALS ROMAN FINISH PROOF

Lot No. 359

359 **1907 Roman Numerals.** Wire edge. **Roman Finish Proof.** A Roman Finish Proof can best be described as a hybrid between a Brilliant and a Matte Proof. This specimen is needle-sharp, with a thick square edge. It really is a dazzling example of medallic art. The Roman Numerals in Proof has its own "Hallmark." Its edge device is subtly different from the regular issue and is the edge that was used for the Extremely High Relief. With the demand what it is for quality and rarity, we feel that this specimen will realize a bid commensurate with its great rarity. **(See Color Plate)**

Lot No. 360

360 **1907 Roman Numerals.** Flat edge. **Gem Brilliant Uncirculated.** Deep yellow gold with a satiny surface. A sharply struck example of this popular rarity.

SAINT-GAUDENS. LOW RELIEF. NO MOTTO

1907 - 1908

361 1907 Low relief. Often referred to as Arabic Numerals. Choice Brilliant Uncirculated. Full mint bloom.

362 1908 No motto. Choice Brilliant Uncirculated. A splendid coin.

363 1908'D' No motto. Brilliant Uncirculated, full frosty lustre. A bagmark on the legs and another below the eagle, otherwise a choice specimen. Really quite scarce.

SAINT-GAUDENS. LOW RELIEF. MOTTO

1908 - 1932

364 1908 Motto. Brilliant Uncirculated, lovely deep yellow gold.

365 1908'D' Motto. About Uncirculated, deep yellow gold, russet toning. Choice.

CHOICE 1908'S' DOUBLE EAGLE

Lot No. 366

366 **1908'S'** About Uncirculated and one of the sharpest strikes we've ever seen. The surfaces are immaculate. Lovely deep yellow gold with russet overtones. Purchased as Uncirculated with very good cause. By far, better than most we've seen offered as Brilliant Uncirculated.

Lot No. 367

367 **1909/8** The overdate. Brilliant Uncirculated. Frosty lustre with delicate toning.

368 1909 Perfect date. Brilliant Uncirculated, deep coppery-yellow gold. A few more bagmarks than usual.

369 **1909'D'** About Uncirculated, excellent frosty surfaces. A very scarce coin.

370 1909'S' Brilliant Uncirculated and frosty.

371 1910 Brilliant Uncirculated. Lovely light russet toning.

372 1910'D' Choice Brilliant Uncirculated. Nearly in the gem category.

373 1910'S' Choice Brilliant Uncirculated. Frosty mint bloom.

374 1911 Choice Brilliant Uncirculated. Exquisite golden and slightly iridescent toning.

375 1911'D' Brilliant Uncirculated, pale coppery toning.

376 1911'S' Choice Brilliant Uncirculated. Sharply struck, excellent surfaces.

Lot No. 377

377 **1912** Choice Brilliant Uncirculated. A splendid example of this scarce date.

378 1913 Choice Brilliant Uncirculated, satiny surfaces. Very nearly in the gem category.

379 1913'D' Choice Brilliant Uncirculated. Frosty and satiny.

SCARCE 1913'S' DOUBLE EAGLE

Lot No. 380

380 **1913'S'** Choice Brilliant Uncirculated, full lustre, sharply struck. Light russet toning. Very scarce.

381 **1914** Brilliant Uncirculated, deep yellow gold. Sharply struck. Really a much underrated date in this condition.

382 1914'D' Choice Brilliant Uncirculated. A virtual gem.

383 1914'S' Choice Brilliant Uncirculated. Deep yellow with sea-green overtones.

384 1915 Brilliant Uncirculated and attractive.

385 1915'S' Choice Brilliant Uncirculated. Very nearly in the gem category.

Lot No. 386

386 **1916'S'** Choice Brilliant Uncirculated. A superb strike with full blazing lustre. A first-rate example of this scarce date.

387 1920 Brilliant Uncirculated, satiny.

388 1922 Choice Brilliant Uncirculated. Superb surfaces.

SPLENDID 1922'S' DOUBLE EAGLE

Lot No. 389

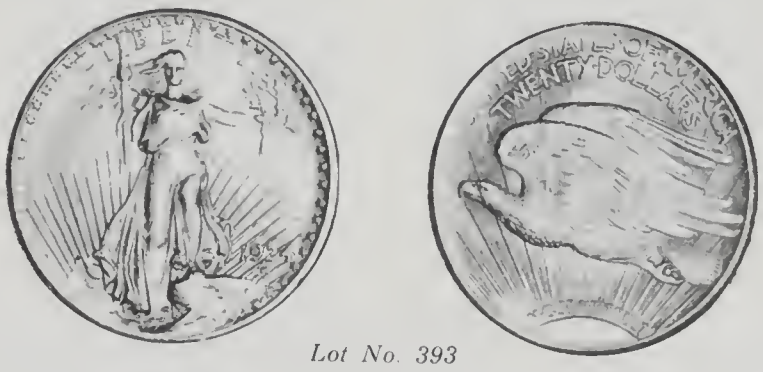
389 **1922'S'** Choice Brilliant Uncirculated. Sharply struck in deep yellow gold. Very nearly in the gem category.

390 1923 Brilliant Uncirculated, coppery toning.

391 **1923'D' Gem** Brilliant Uncirculated. Satiny surface with pale coppery toning.

392 1924 **Gem** Brilliant Uncirculated. A couple of miniscule bagmarks from perfection.

SCARCE 1924'D' DOUBLE EAGLE



Lot No. 393

393 **1924'D'** Brilliant Uncirculated. Frosty mint bloom, with slightly more bagmarks than usual.

RARE 1924'S' DOUBLE EAGLE

Lot No. 394

394 **1924'S'** Choice Brilliant Uncirculated. Light bagmarks but a lovely specimen. The stars fully struck-up which is most unusual for this date.

395 1925 Choice Brilliant Uncirculated. Lovely coppery-russet toning.

RARE 1925'D' DOUBLE EAGLE

Lot No. 396

396 **1925'D'** Choice Brilliant Uncirculated. Full blazing lustre with but a few light bagmarks on the figure. Sharply struck and a very attractive example of this rare date.

Lot No. 397

397 **1925'S'** Choice Brilliant Uncirculated. The typical "inner ring" about the periphery. Deep yellow gold with light coppery overtones.

398 1926 **Gem** Brilliant Uncirculated. Exquisite pale orange toning.

VERY RARE 1926'D' DOUBLE EAGLE

Lot No. 399

399 **1926'D'** Brilliant Uncirculated. Full lustre with pale sea-green toning. Light bagmarks but overall a lovely example of this rare date.

CHOICE 1926'S' DOUBLE EAGLE

Lot No. 400

400 **1926'S'** Choice Brilliant Uncirculated. Full blazing lustre with a satiny surface. A splendid coin with pale sea-green and iridescent toning.

401 1927 **Gem** Brilliant Uncirculated. This coin is very nearly perfect.

VERY RARE 1927'S' DOUBLE EAGLE

Lot No. 402

402 **1927'S'** Brilliant Uncirculated. Full frosty mint bloom. A trifle soft on the figure as are most. Overall a lovely example because of the excellent surfaces. Deep yellow gold with a pink tint. Very rare, with few appearances at auction. **(See Color Plate)**

403 1928 Choice Brilliant Uncirculated.

VERY RARE 1929 DOUBLE EAGLE

Lot No. 404

404 **1929** Choice Brilliant Uncirculated, frosty and satiny. A sharply struck specimen with very few tiny bagmarks. Very rare and in demand.

EXTREMELY RARE 1930'S' DOUBLE EAGLE

Lot No. 405

405 **1930'S'** Choice Brilliant Uncirculated. A superb example in deep yellow gold. Sharply struck, with a satiny surface. This is **The Rarest San Francisco Mint Double Eagle.** Only one specimen sold in 1980 at Public Auction, the comparable coin in our October Sale. **(See Color Plate)**

EXTREMELY RARE 1931 DOUBLE EAGLE

Lot No. 406

406 **1931** Choice Brilliant Uncirculated. A few "hidden" bagmarks from the gem category. A simply splendid example of this great rarity. Deep yellow gold with pale russet overtones. The coin probably could be equalled but the cataloguer seriously doubts if it could be bettered. **(See Color Plate)**

EXTREMELY RARE 1931'D' DOUBLE EAGLE

Lot No. 407

407 **1931'D'** Choice Brilliant Uncirculated. Frosty pink with pale sea-green overtones. A bagmark on the knee and a few other scattered marks. Really a lovely specimen and fully as rare as the 1930'S', if not rarer. It has the same "frequency of appearance" of any of the great rarities of the series. **(See Color Plate)**

EXTREMELY RARE 1932 DOUBLE EAGLE

Lot No. 408

408 **1932** The last collectible year of double eagles. **Gem** Brilliant Uncirculated, satiny surface, virtually free from bagmarks. Sharply struck in deep yellow gold with a hint of sea-green iridescence. The coin is so beautiful and so rare that nothing more need be said. **(See Color Plate)**

An Important Collection Of Pioneer & Territorial Gold Coins

Although only the Federal Government was given the constitutional authority to coin money to be current throughout the United States, the tremendously rich discoveries of gold in the southeastern and far western parts of the country before 1860 created an emergency situation. The economy of the Carolinas, Georgia and those areas soon to be incorporated into the Union as the states of California, Colorado, and Oregon required some form of circulating medium. Remote as they were from the more populous areas of the Atlantic coast, there was little the Government could do immediately to meet the needs of pioneer communities overwhelmed by a flood of raw unprocessed gold.

The solution to the problem was left in the hands of the Pioneers themselves. Enterprising private individuals were quick to grasp the need to have the virgin product of the mines translated into some manageable form. The result was the production of a fascinating series of gold tokens, bars, and ingots, many of which resembled coins and many of which did not. The private mints operated without any official control. It is hardly surprising that the urge their owners felt to make a fast profit resulted in the issues, particularly the earliest, being notably underweight in relation to the ostensible value stamped upon them. But the Californians in particular were quick to learn. A few of the overly profit minded mint operators were literally run out of town. Others gracefully retired from the business in time and went on to become among the most distinguished and wealthiest citizens of the new State.

The collection in this sale contains many of the principal issues, mostly represented by exceptionally choice specimens. Of particular note are the companies rarely offered at auction, such as J. J. Conway, John Parsons, and the Pacific Company. Needless to say, of great interest as well is the pair of Templeton Reid Quarter Eagles and the Complete Set of Clark Gruber & Co.

PRIVATE GEORGIA GOLD

TEMPLETON REID

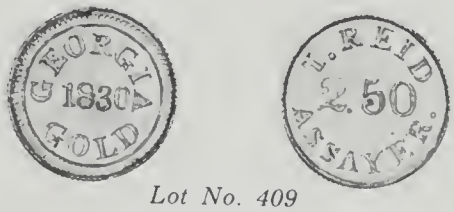
Lumpkin County, Georgia, 1830

The coins struck by Templeton Reid in Georgia are among the rarest of all the private gold issues. He established his mint near the gold mines in Lumpkin County in Hilledgeville, sometime in 1830. His pieces were the first private gold coins made to pass as money in this country.

The Reid pieces had one characteristic that distinguishes them from other private issues, particularly the majority of those produced later in California. They contained metal of a higher standard of fineness than any coins made in the United States, including those of the Federal mints.

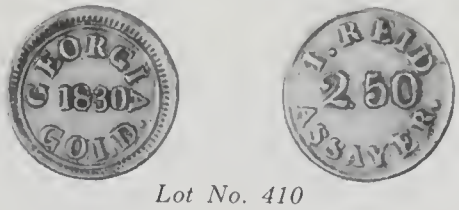
Templeton Reid is known to have been an expert gunsmith and watchmaker. One reference to him in print appeared in the "National Gazette" of Philadelphia on January 11, 1831, when there was a brief reference to the Reid pieces and an announcement that he had coined about $200,000.00 in gold. Up until 1974 there was less information about him than any proprietor of a private mint striking coins in the various gold fields which opened in America during the 19th century. Subsequently Mr. Dexter Seymour uncovered a host of information about him. This is printed in Museum Notes 19, American Numismatic Society, 1974.

1830 TEMPLETON REID $2.50 GOLD



Lot No. 409

409 **$2.50. 1830.** Obverse: 1830 in center, GEORGIA above, GOLD below. Reverse: Large 2.50 in center, T. REID above, ASSAYER below. Raised border with milling, reeded edge. **Extremely Fine** or better. Prooflike in the protected areas and superb in every respect save for one small edge nick on the obverse. A sensational coin and clearly one of the finest extant if not the finest. **(See Color Plate)**



Lot No. 410

410 **$2.50. 1830.** Another example, as above. This specimen is **Very Fine,** struck slightly off-center to 1 o'clock. This specimen was formerly in the Capt. Andrew Zabriskie Collection, then to the Ellsworth Collection where it was purchased by John Work Garrett in 1923. Later sold in the Garrett Collection, lot 504, Nov. 1979. **(See Color Plate)**

THE BECHTLER COINAGE

North Carolina, 1831-1846

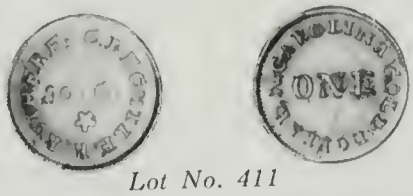
Many millions of dollars in gold have been mined in the foothills of the North Carolina Mountains since the first nugget was found on a farm in Cabarrus County in 1799. Rutherford County and Rutherfordton have the distinction of having had the only private mint in the South-eastern United States outside of the Federal mint ever to strike substantial amounts of coin. The mint was operated by the Bechtler family who came to North Carolina in 1830 after having emigrated from Germany. The Bechtlers were skilled artisans. They set up as jewelers and also worked as gunsmiths, miners, and precious metal refiners.

The notable increase in gold production in Rutherford County led the Bechtlers to open their mint. On July 2, 1831 they advertised that they would be able to smelt, refine and coin the raw gold from the local mines. All the dies and machinery for striking the coins were made by members of the family. The mint operated at its peak from 1831 to 1842 — when Christopher Bechtler, Sr. died. It continued with a reduced output nnder his son Augustus Bechtler until 1846. Available records indicate that the coinage from January 1831 to February 1840 totalled $2,241,850.50.

The geographical inscription found on the Bechtler coins were used to indicate the quality of the gold used. Those of 20 carats were stamped "North Carolina Gold"; those of 21 carats, "Carolina Gold"; while the highest grade of 22 carats were marked "Georgia Gold." They were issued in the three denominations of $1.00, $2.50 and $5.00. All the pieces were somewhat undervalued. Nevertheless, during the Civil War many Confederate contracts specified payment in Bechtler gold rather than Confederate currency or federal specie.

Gold Coins of Christopher Bechtler

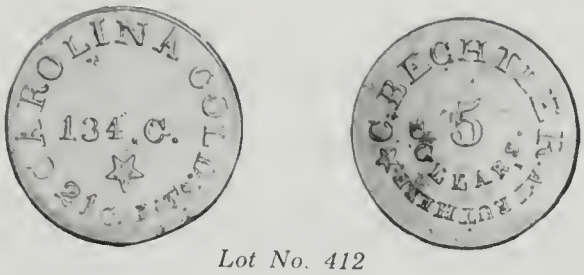
C. BECHTLER GOLD DOLLAR



Lot No. 411

411 **$1.00. N.CAROLINA (S.4) 30 G.** Obverse: 30 G, star below, in center of field; C.BECHTLER. RUTHERF: around. Reverse: ONE in field, N:CAROLINA GOLD DOLLAR. Fine reeded edge. **Extremely Fine.** Ex Garrett Collection, lot 508, Nov. 1979.

C. BECHTLER $5.00 GOLD



Lot No. 412

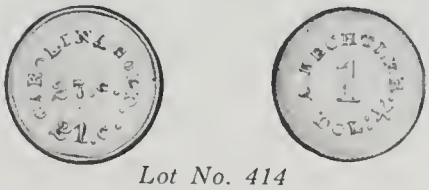
412 **$5.00 CAROLINA (S.17) 134 G, 21 C.** Obverse: 134 G and star in field, CAROLINA GOLD: 21 CARATS around. Reverse: 5 DOLLARS in field, C:BECHTLER AT RUTHERF: Star around. Plain edge. **Extremely Fine.** Mint lustre about lettering. A few minor planchet flakes. **(See Color Plate)**

Lot No. 413

413 **$5.00. GEORGIA (S.18) RUTHERFORD. 128 G, 22 C.** Obverse: 128 G and Star in field, GEORGIA GOLD, 22 CARATS around. Reverse: 5 DOLLARS in field, C. BECHTLER AT RUTHERFORD and Star around. Plain edge. **About Uncirculated,** mint lustre. This coin is quite a bit rarer than the reference catalogues indicate, when one considers the fact that there was only one example in the Walton Collection. Ex Gaylord Collection. Later from our Gibson Collection, lot 162, Nov. 1974. **(See Color Plate)**

Gold Coins of Augustus Bechtler

A. BECHTLER GOLD DOLLAR



Lot No. 414

414 **$1.00. CAROLINA (S.22) 27 G, 21 C.** Obverse: 27 G in center, CAROLINA GOLD, 21 C around. Reverse: Large number 1 in center, A. BECHTLER around at top of numerals, DOL: and Star below. **Extremely Fine.**

PRIVATE CALIFORNIA GOLD

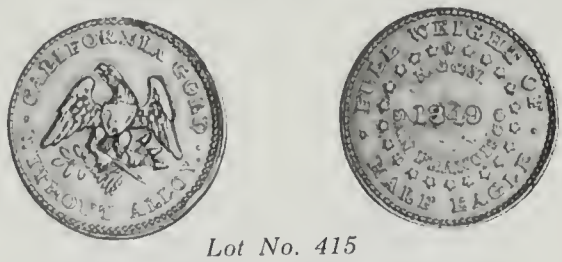
NORRIS, GREGG & NORRIS

Benicia City and San Francisco

Little is known about the firm established by Thomas and Hiram Norris and Charles Gregg. The significance of the initials N.G.N. on the $5.00 pieces they issued was not clear until the sale of Augustus Humbert's effects in 1902 when a single uncirculated specimen was found wrapped in paper identifying it as having come, "From my friends Norris, Gregg and Norris."

It is probable that the N.G.N. coins were the first of the private issues to be made and circulated in California. The legend on the obverse CALIFORNIA GOLD WITHOUT ALLOY was only relatively true. Assays in the Philadelphia mint conducted by Eckfeldt and Dubois showed that they were manufactured from virgin gold supplied directly from the diggings. This metal contains a high natural silver content and additional alloy was not necessary. Like so many of the private mint issues the N.G.N. coins, while of reasonably full weight, were undervalued. There are two S.F. varieties, both dated 1849, one with a plain edge and the other with a reeded edge. Although they carry the name of San Francisco they were apparently struck in Benicia City.

1849 NORRIS, GREGG & NORRIS $5.00 GOLD



Lot No. 415

415 **$5.00. 1849. PLAIN EDGE.** Obverse: Small eagle with olive branch in right talon and three arrows in left talon, small shield with numeral 5 on breast, around CALIFORNIA GOLD WITHOUT ALLOY. Reverse: 1849 in center; N.G&N. SAN FRANCISCO in small letters within a circle of stars; in larger letters around FULL WEIGHT OF HALF EAGLE. **Extremely Fine,** some very faint signs of retooling above and below the date. **(See Color Plate)**

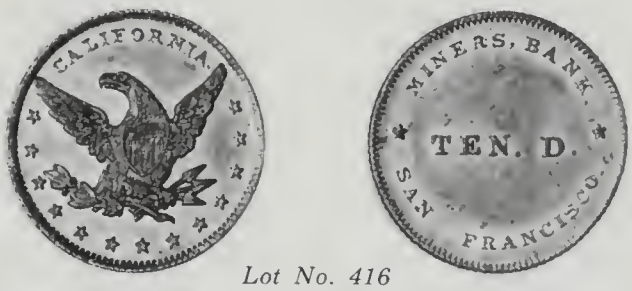
MINER'S BANK

San Francisco

The Miner's Bank was one of the less satisfactory private mints to operate in California during the early days of the gold rush. The firm was originally established early in 1849 as a partnership of four men under the name of Wright & Co. They operated as exchange brokers. On August 7, 1849 their request to the State authorities for permission to issue $5.00 and $10.00 coins was rejected. In November 1849 the firm was reorganized under the name of the Miner's Bank. The premises occupied by the Bank took the form of an inconspicuous wooden shack for which they paid an enormous rent calculated at the rate of $75,000.00 a year.

Whether the new Bank was ever granted the right to issue coins by the State is not clear. Nevertheless there is no question that they did manage to make $10.00 coins late in the year. A specimen was assayed in the New Orleans mint in December 1849 and found to contain $9.65 worth of gold alloyed with silver. Inasmuch as all the Bank's issues were undervalued the coins were not popular and only accepted at a discount. Most of them must have been melted down in later years because they are now very rare.

MINER'S BANK $10.00 GOLD



Lot No. 416

416 **$10.00. n.d.** (Not dated but coined in 1849). This firm only minted the Ten Dollar denomination. Obverse: Eagle with shield, olive branch in right talon, three arrows in left talon; CALIFORNIA above, thirteen stars in semi-circle below. Reverse: TEN D. in center, star at each side; MINER'S BANK above, SAN FRANCISCO below. **About Uncirculated** and a **"gem."** The obverse with full mint lustre. The reverse not quite as brilliant because of its unprotected nature. This coin is one of the really rare coins in the series, but it has not been fully appreciated judging by comparison with some of the values quoted for more common varieties of Pioneer Gold. Of course with the strong demand for Pioneer Gold coins today, a record price could be registered for this superb specimen. **(See Color Plate)**

THE PACIFIC COMPANY

San Francisco, 1849

The coins issued by the "Pacific Company" were made by the firm of Broderick & Kohler. Both David C. Broderick and Frederick D. Kohler were volunteer firemen in New York City before being drawn to California by the news of the gold discoveries. The former was a stone cutter by trade, while the latter was a jeweler. In due course they rose to be distinguished citizens of their adopted State. Broderick became a U.S. Senator and Kohler the only California State Assayer. After the initial excitement generated by the rich finds of gold had died down the foundations for their considerable personal fortunes were laid by judicious investments in San Francisco real estate.

As soon as the men arrived in California it became apparent that there was an urgent need for means to turn the freshly mined gold into some form of coin. Broderick and Kohler set out to do this. While the surviving issues in gold are of the $5.00 and $10.00 denominations, $1.00 and $2.50 pieces were also made. The profits on the operation were high. The firm purchased gold at from $14.00 to $16.00 when the prevailing price was $20.00 an ounce. The resulting coins contained about $4.00 and $8.00 worth of metal. Many were struck by hand. Eventually the plant was sold to Baldwin & Co. and the former owners went on to even more satisfying occupations.

THE EXCESSIVELY RARE

1849 PACIFIC CO. $5.00 GOLD

Lot No. 417

417 **$5.00. 1849.** Obverse: Liberty cap in center of field from which spring ten radiations, three stars between each radiation making a total of 30 stars; the denomination 5 DOLLARS below. Reverse: An eagle, head turned to left, with outspread wings; olive branch in hammer in talons; PACIFIC COMPANY CALIFORNIA around the border; 1849 in large figures below. Acquired by us for Mr. Gibson at the Brand-Lichtenfels 1964 Sale held by Schulman-Kreisberg where it was described as, **"Practically Uncirculated.** Over the head of eagle there are a few light horizontal scratches." ONLY FOUR SPECIMENS KNOWN (IN GOLD), one in the Mint Collection, the C. Williams piece sold in 1951 at $5,000.00, the Garrett example, and this, the Virgil Brand specimen. (Ex Virgil Brand—H. L. P. Brand—Robert Friedberg—Capital Coin—Brand Lichtenfels Sale.)

Up until 1974 this was, to the best of our knowledge, the **only** specimen of this great rarity that ever appeared at Public Auction Sale in the United States. From our Auction Sale of the Gibson Collection, lot 200, Nov. 11, 1974. Since that time the Garrett example was sold at Public Auction in March 1980. Therefore, including this offering, it will have had only three appearances (two coins) since it was struck! **(See Color Plate)**

BALDWIN & COMPANY

San Francisco

Baldwin & Co. may have struck more gold than any of the private mints in California during the years 1850 and 1851. The firm was a partnership of two San Francisco jewelers, Baldwin and Holman, who purchased the coining presses of Kohler & Co. Holman later withdrew and was replaced by one Bagley. They went into business on May 1, 1850 and issued $5.00, $10.00 and $20.00 pieces, with an announcement that, "Our coin is redeemable on presentation." In the same announcement Kohler said he could, "cheerfully recommend them to the confidence of the public." But when Augustus Humbert assayed the coins he found that the denominations were respectively worth only $4.91, $9.74 and $19.40.

The fact that the Baldwin coins were considerably under valued was hardly unusual, considering the times and the records of other private mints. But by 1851 the public had become more sophisticated than it was in palmy days of the Pacific Co. On April 9, 1851 the San Francisco, "Pacific News" published an editorial devoted to Baldwin's entitled, "The Gold Coin Swindle."

Public indignation rose to a fever pitch and on April 17, the "Pacific News" was able to report, "that Messrs. Baldwin & Bagley, the manufacturers of 'Baldwin's Coin', left in the steamer Panama of Tuesday for the Atlantic States." Inasmuch as the Baldwin issues amounted to between one and two million dollars, the rarity of the surviving pieces is surprising. It can perhaps best be explained by the fact that the great majority of these short weight coins were melted down.

1850 BALDWIN & CO. $10.00 GOLD

Lot No. 418

418 **$10.00. 1850.** The famous **HORSEMAN or COWBOY** type. Obverse: Vaquero (cowboy) on horseback, throwing lariat; 1850 below; CALIFORNIA GOLD TEN DOLLARS around. The S in DOLLARS is considerably smaller than the other letters in the legend. Reverse: Large eagle with shield on breast, olive branch in right talon and three arrows in left talon; BALDWIN & CO. above, SAN FRANCISCO below; five stars below each wing of the eagle. This specimen is **Extremely Fine,** with mint lustre in the devices. Nicely struck and completely free from any defect. From B. Max Mehl in 1947 to Amon Carter to the present collection.

Without a doubt, this is the most interesting and popular design of the entire Pioneer Gold coinage. The "cowboy" has always been one of the focal points of a really important collection of Territorial Gold coins. **(See Color Plate)**

AUGUSTUS HUMBERT, UNITED STATES ASSAYER

February 1, 1851 - February 15, 1852

By 1850 the unsupervised issues of private gold coins, and the difficulty of ascertaining the real value of raw gold, were having an unsettling economic effect in California. The State representatives in Congress pressed for the establishment of a United States branch mint in San Francisco as soon as possible. When it became obvious that immediate action would not be taken, a compromise was reached. On September 30, 1850 Congress authorized the Secretary of the Treasury to make a contract with an established assayer in California to assay new gold and prepare ingots of known weight and fineness. Moffat & Co. were virtually the only firm qualified to do the work and were awarded the contract. At the same time Augustus Humbert of New York was appointed United States Assayer to supervise the technical aspects of the operation.

The Assay Office was a temporary expedient to fill an urgent need until a branch mint could be authorized. Moffat & Co. took immediate steps to expand their facilities, moving to larger quarters on Commercial Street adjacent to Montgomery Street, and ceased issuing coins under their own name. On January 29, 1851 they publicly advertised that, "on or about the first of February ensuing we will be prepared to receive gold dust for smelting and assaying, and forming the same into ingots and bars, in accordance with our recent contract with the Secretary of the Treasury—under the supervision of the United States Assayer, Augustus Humbert, Esq., who will cause the United States stamp to be affixed to the same."

Humbert arrived in town on January 30 or 31, 1851. The initial octagonal $50 gold coin must have been struck on either of these days because the February 1 edition of the San Francisco, "Pacific News" announced that "The dies for this purpose have been procured and the first coin produced by them was shown to us yesterday." The promptness with which the original octagonal slug was made can be explained by the fact that Humbert had taken steps to have the dies and collars prepared before leaving New York by C. C. Wright, whose name appears on a trial striking in copper.

The regular production of the $50.00 ingots in quantity began on February 14, 1851. They met one vital commercial need the mixed issues of private gold had not been able to fulfill. As a form of emergency U.S. coin, they were accepted by the government at full face value in payment for all Customs duties.

1851 AUGUSTUS HUMBERT $50.00 GOLD

Lot No. 419

419 **$50.00. 1851. REEDED EDGE.** Obverse: Eagle with shield and ribbon; 887 THOUS on scroll above, the 887 is **not** incused; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FIFTY DOLLS. around, all within a finely beaded circle; 1851 below; AUGUSTUS HUMBERT UNITED STATES ASSAYER OF GOLD CALIFORNIA around in smaller letters. Reverse: Heavy engine turned design with medium target in center. A very choice **Extremely Fine. Free of the usual dents, particularly on the edges.** A splendid coin with greenish and iridescent toning. Needle-sharp in strike and clearly a superior example of the very popular "Slug." **(See Color Plate)**

UNITED STATES ASSAY OFFICE OF GOLD

February 16, 1852 - December 14, 1853

Early in 1852 Moffat & Co. was dissolved and John L. Moffat severed all connections with his former partners. They continued in the business under the name of Curtis, Perry & Ward. The "Contract for Smelting and Assaying Gold in California," as authorized by the 31st Congress on September 30, 1850, was transferred by the Treasury Department to the new partnership. Augustus Humbert stayed on as U.S. Assayer with the organization now called The United States Assay Office of Gold. In spite of the slight change in title the firm continued to work as a provisional mint operating under emergency conditions. While the designs adopted for the issues included an undeniably American Eagle, the coins deliberately avoided any close resemblance to those of the regular U.S. mints. Nevertheless the fact that they carried the legend UNITED STATES OF AMERICA gave them an official status and guaranteed their weight and fineness.

The somewhat irregular nature of the USAOG was not only a reflection of the crisis conditions then prevailing in the California gold fields, but a deliberate, and necessary, attempt to evade the Mint Act of January 18, 1837. The Act provided that U.S. Gold coins be .900 fine with no more than 50 parts of silver in an otherwise pure copper alloy. It was virtually impossible to conform to this regulation. Copper was in short supply in California and the parting acids required in the refining process could not be shipped safely either by land or sea. Nevertheless the coinage of the USAOG was accepted in payment of obligations to the Federal government thanks to the realistic attitude of the U.S. Collector of Customs, T. Butler King, who managed in spite of conflicting instructions from Washington.

On July 3, 1852 Congress finally passed the Act authorizing the establishment of a United States Branch Mint in San Francisco. Curtis was able to buy the contract for the new mint and the following year the USAOG was transferred to the Federal government for $285,000.00. This sum included $25,000.00 for an expansion of the original premises under Curtis' supervision. Meanwhile Perry undertook to acquire $50,000.00 worth of machinery. The old provisional mint was finally able to go into operation as the U.S. Branch Mint, San Francisco, on April 3, 1854. The first double eagles of the standard national design were struck on April 15, 1854.

1853 U. S. ASSAY OFFICE $20.00 GOLD

Lot No. 420

420 **$20.00. 1853. 900 Thous.** Obverse: Eagle with shield, ribbon in beak, 900 THOUS on scroll above, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TWENTY D. around. Reverse: Engine turned design with oblong tablet in center bearing inscription in four lines, UNITED STATES ASSAY OFFICE OF GOLD SAN FRANCISCO CALIFORNIA 1853. **Extremely Fine,** pale greenish toning. A popular coin of the California Gold Rush period.

KELLOGG & CO.

San Francisco

Kellogg & Co. was one of the respected, and among the last, of the private mints to operate in California. John G. Kellogg of Auburn, New York arrived in San Francisco on October 12, 1849. He immediately went to work for Moffat & Co. and stayed on when the firm was reorganized as Curtis, Perry & Ward to operate as the U.S. Assay Office of Gold. When the Assay Office closed in December, 1853, Kellogg opened his own assaying business, aided by G.F. Richter who also had been employed by the U.S. Assay Office. The new partnership was approved by Augustus Humbert who strongly commended them "to the confidence and patronage of the public." Humbert never had any reason to regret his recommendation.

The scarcity of gold coins with which to carry on ordinary business was as marked as ever. The Assay office was in the progress of being transformed into the new Branch Mint and none of the other private mints were any longer in operation, with good reason. In January 1854 the principal businessmen of San Francisco and Sacramento petitioned Kellogg and Richter to issue coins of their own. This they agreed to do, with their first $20.00 coin appearing in February 1854.

The Kellogg pieces filled a vital need in the early economic life of California. The gold production at the mines had reached enormous proportions and the new U.S. Mint was very slow in getting into significant production. During 1855 the Kellogg coins appeared in even greater quantity in spite of an improvement in the mint's own output. No coins were issued after that date. Kellogg himself lived to become one of the States most respected citizens.

Lot No. 421

421 **$20.00. 1854.** Obverse: Liberty head facing left, date below, KELLOGG & CO. on diadem; thirteen six-pointed stars around. Reverse: Eagle as on adopted design of the regular issues of this denomination; SAN FRANCISCO CALIFORNIA TWENTY D around. **About Uncirculated,** showing almost no evidence of wear. A small old obverse scratch between the second and third stars. Superb coppery-yellow toning. **(See Color Plate)**

Lot No. 422

422 **$20.00. 1855.** Type as above. **About Uncirculated,** deep yellow gold. A lovely lustrous example of this scarce date.

MOFFAT & COMPANY

Corner of Dupont and Clay Streets, San Francisco

John Little Moffat was born at Goshen, N.Y., in Feb., 1788. He lived in New York City until the mid-eighteen thirties, at which time he relocated to Northern Georgia where he became involved with some gold mines he had earlier purchased. In his early years Moffat had learned the trade of a silversmith, and while in Georgia became interested in assaying. Subsequently, as a highly competent assayer and metallurgist, he returned to New York and became associated with the firm of Wilmarth, Moffat & Curtis. Early in 1849, he migrated to California, where he organized the firm bearing his name in San Francisco. His partners in Moffat & Co. were J. R. Curtis, S. H. Ward, and P. H. Perry.

Moffat & Co. commenced the issue of gold ingots to supersede the circulation of gold dust in June, 1849. Examples recorded and reported range in stamped value from $9.43 to nearly $3,000.00, although the basic issue consisted of $16.00 pieces. Early in August of 1849, Moffat & Co. began to issue ten-dollar gold coins from dies hurriedly cut the previous month by Albert Kuner, a Bavarian, newly arrived in San Francisco. It is believed that the TEN D. variety was the first issued. In the fall of 1849 five-dollar gold coins appeared bearing the Moffat stamp. These were also struck from dies prepared by Kuner.

The Moffat establishment was the largest, best known, and most highly regarded of all the California coining firms. The original company formally dissolved in February, 1852, when Mr. Moffat left the firm and a new co-partnership was formed, composed of Messrs. Curtis, Ward, and Perry, to operate the United States Assay Office of Gold. This operation later became, after sale to the Federal government, the U.S. Branch Mint at San Francisco.

1850 MOFFAT & CO. $5.00 GOLD

Lot No. 423

423 **$5.00. 1850.** Obverse: Liberty head to left, date below; MOFFAT & CO. on diadem; thirteen stars around. Reverse: Eagle as on regular issues of U. S. coins; S.M.V. CALIFORNIA GOLD FIVE DOL around. **About Uncirculated,** showing only minute wear. Choice and above average. Scarcer than the 1849 variety. From our Gibson Sale, lot 196. **(See Color Plate)**

GOLD COINS OF THE MORMONS

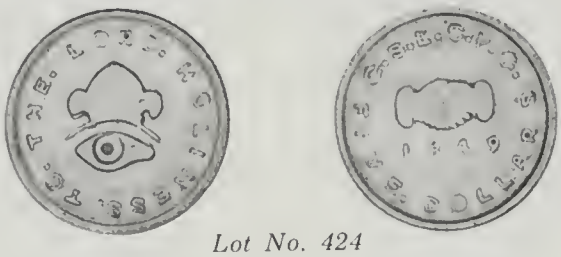
Salt Lake City, Utah 1849-1860

A small band of Mormons, led by Brigham Young, migrated to Utah and took up residence in the Great Salt Lake Valley in July 1847. By the end of 1848 about 5,000 additional Mormons had settled in the area. A population of this size required some form of political organization and early in 1849 the Mormon community was organized as the State of Deseret. Young was appointed the first Governor. According to The Book of Mormon, "Deseret" means "land of the working bee."

While the basis of the early economy was agricultural the Mormons soon felt the need for a means of exchange. In 1849 Governor Young personally established a minting operation in Salt Lake City. Thomas Bullock became the active director of the mint during its existence. A local mechanic named Kay created the tools required and J. M. Barlow, a dentist cut the original dies. Denominations from $2.50 to $20.00 were issued. California was the source of the gold used. Active prospecting for the precious metals in Utah did not begin until 1862, two years after the Mormon mint was closed down.

The coins themselves were so underweight as to almost permit them to be classified as gold tokens. The $20.00 pieces assayed at about $17.00 and the metal was only crudely refined. The profits from the minting operations were thus very high. While the various mints in California lead to accusations of a "Gold coin swindle" there was no such difficulty in Utah. In the sternly hierarchical Mormon society the extraordinary profits from the coinage were regarded as the prerogative of the State of Deseret.

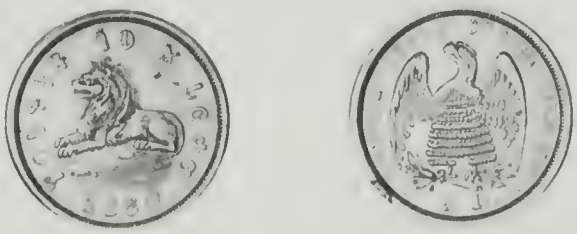
1849 MORMON $5.00 GOLD



Lot No. 424

424 **$5.00. 1849.** Obverse: Bishops mitre about all-seeing Eye; HOLINESS TO THE LORD around. Reverse: Two clasped hands with date below; G.S.L.C.P.G. (Great Salt Lake City Pure Gold) above; FIVE DOLLARS in semi-circle below. **Very Fine and choice,** clean surfaces. Free of edge imperfections. Greenish-yellow gold. **(See Color Plate)**

1860 MORMON $5.00 GOLD



Lot No. 425

425 **$5.00. 1860.** The rare and interesting type with the lion reclining to the left, date below; HOLINESS TO THE LORD in Mormon characters around. Reverse: Eagle behind beehive, 5 D below; DESERET ASSAY OFFICE PURE GOLD around. Milled edge. **Extremely Fine,** small reverse edge dent. Very rare and in great demand. **(See Color Plate)**

GOLD COINS OF OREGON

OREGON EXCHANGE COMPANY

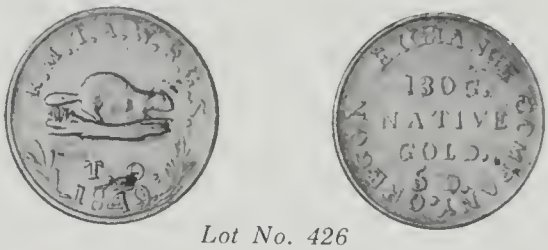
Oregon City, Oregon

The original economy of the Oregon Territory was entirely "Pioneer" in nature. Farming, lumbering and trapping were the main occupations of the settlers and beaver pelts served as a medium of exchange. After the discovery of gold in California, gold dust began to appear in the Territory but was not really suitable for use as money.

On February 16, 1849 the legislature of the provisional government authorized an issue of $5.00 and $10.00 coins to be struck in pure gold. Although a new Governor, appointed in Washington, declared this act to be illegal, the need was so great that a group of public spirited men took steps on their own to implement the initial legislative permission. They organized the Oregon Exchange Co. and established a mint in Oregon City.

The dies for the new issue were cut by Hamilton Campbell who incorporated the beaver, the original currency, into his designs. The minting machinery was made from scrap iron by an enterprising blacksmith. The first coins issued were the $5.00 pieces. The now valuable and sought after $10.00 pieces followed.

1849 OREGON EXCHANGE CO. $5.00 GOLD



Lot No. 426

426 **$5.00. 1849.** Obverse: Beaver on a log to right; T.O. (Oregon Territory) below; 1849 below T.O., with a branch on either side; K.M.T.A.W.R.G.S. above. These initials represent the members of the firm composing the Oregon Exchange Company. (Note: Initial "G" instead of "C" which was an engraving error.) Reverse: 130 G, NATIVE GOLD, 5 D in four lines in center; OREGON EXCHANGE COMPANY around. Beaded and raised borders. Plain edge. A nice **Very Fine** with considerable fur on the beaver. A few small planchet flakes on the obverse. Very rare. **(See Color Plate)**

PRIVATE COLORADO GOLD

CLARK, GRUBER & CO.

Denver, Colorado

The discovery of gold in Colorado in 1860 created the usual need for some means to turn the virgin metal into coinage. The firm of Clark, Gruber & Co. went into business to handle the output of the various mines. In 1860 they decided to strike their own coins to provide the means to pay the miners for their gold dust. The mint, located on McGaa Street, Denver, was opened in July, 1860, with an issue of $10.00 pieces. Eventually all denominations from $2.50 to $20.00 were struck, with the exception of $3.00 pieces. The total output for the years 1860 and 1861 amounted to nearly $600,000. In 1862 the Government purchased the Clark, Gruber mint and operated it thereafter as a United States Assay Office.

The firm's gold coins were of a very high standard. Although made from the natural Colorado gold with the usual alloy of silver, they were considerably heavier than the copper alloyed issues of the national mints and worth their full face value or slightly better. Of the entire series the $20.00 pieces are by far the rarest.

1860 CLARK, GRUBER & CO. $20.00 GOLD

Lot No. 427

427 **$20.00. 1860.** Obverse: **View of Pikes Peak,** DENVER below peak; PIKES PEAK GOLD TWENTY D around. Reverse: Eagle with shield, large date below; CLARK GRUBER & CO. around. A splendid example of this seldom offered coin. **Extremely Fine,** with mint lustre and delicate toning. A few small handling marks but definitely one of the best we've seen or handled. **(See Color Plate)**

1860 CLARK, GRUBER & CO. $10.00 GOLD

Lot No. 428

428 **$10.00. 1860.** Same design as above with View of Pikes Peak. **Extremely Fine.** A few barely discernible scratches in obverse field. Greenish-yellow gold with coppery overtones. **(See Color Plate)**

1860 CLARK, GRUBER & CO. $5.00 GOLD

Lot No. 429

429 **$5.00. 1860.** Obverse: Liberty head, CLARK & CO. on diadem, date below, 13 stars around. Reverse: Eagle as on the regular issues of United States Gold coins; PIKES PEAK GOLD DENVER FIVE D around. **About Uncirculated,** with characteristic softness in centers of coin. Prooflike surface with coppery toning. **(See Color Plate)**

1860 CLARK, GRUBER & CO. $2.50 GOLD

Lot No. 430

430 **$2.50. 1860.** Obverse: Liberty head, CLARK & CO. on diadem, date below, 13 stars around. Reverse: Eagle as on the regular issues of U. S. Gold coins; PIKES PEAK GOLD DENVER 2½ D around. **Extremely Fine.** The center of the coin is somewhat weakly struck, probably from worn dies. Free of usual nicks. Choice and desirable. Very much in demand. **(See Color Plate)**

1861 CLARK, GRUBER & CO. $20.00 GOLD

Lot No. 431

431 **$20.00. 1861.** Obverse: Liberty head facing left; PIKES PEAK on diadem, date below, 13 six-pointed stars around. Reverse: Eagle as on the regular issues of the United States Double Eagles; CLARK GRUBER & CO. DENVER TWENTY D around. Reeded edge. **About Uncirculated,** with almost full original mint lustre. Prooflike surface. One of the choicest examples extant and worthy of the finest collection. Rarely offered in any grade, an **extreme rarity** this choice. Worthy of a record bid. **(See Color Plate)**

1861 CLARK, GRUBER & CO. $10.00 GOLD

Lot No. 432

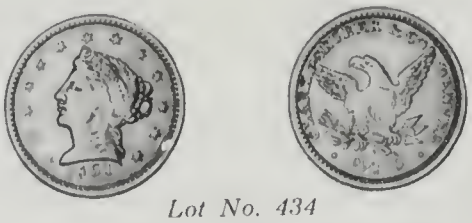
432 **$10.00. 1861.** Similar in design to the above except 10 D below eagle. PIKES PEAK on diadem. **Extremely Fine,** some mint lustre. Typical greenish-yellow gold. A scarce coin. **(See Color Plate)**

1861 CLARK, GRUBER & CO. $5.00 GOLD

Lot No. 433

433 **$5.00. 1861.** Similar in design to the preceding coin but FIVE D below eagle. PIKES PEAK on diadem. **Extremely Fine.** Well struck about its periphery, weak as usual in the centers. Small die crack adjacent to the date. **(See Color Plate)**

1861 CLARK, GRUBER & CO. $2.50 GOLD



Lot No. 434

434 **$2.50. 1861.** Type and design as the preceding. PIKES PEAK on diadem. **Extremely Fine.** Weakly struck in the centers as usual. Coppery toning. **(See Color Plate)**

J. J. CONWAY & CO., BANKERS

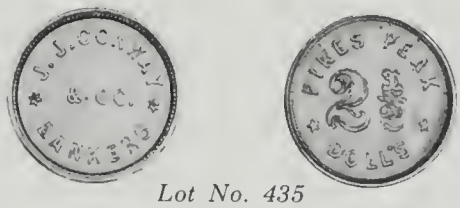
Parkville, Summit County, Colorado Territory

J. J. Conway & Co. probably operated in the town of Parkville, located at the mouth of Georgia Gulch, Summit County in the Colorado Territory. The Conway $5.00 and $10.00 gold pieces were undoubtedly first struck in early August, 1861, with coinage continuing through the month of September.

The weekly "Rocky Mountain News," August 21, 1861, reported: "There is a mint in Georgia Gulch, conducted by J. J. Conway & Co., jewelers and bankers. Their machinery seems to be as fine as that of Clark, Gruber & Co., and their $5.00 and $10.00 gold pieces look as nice and as rich as Uncle Sam himself could get up." A later issue of the Denver paper reproduced the Assay Certificate of T. G. Perrenaud, a local assayer, in which it was shown that the Conway $5.00 coin weighed 140.30 grains, the gold being 822/1000 fineness, and the proportion of the silver 78/1000, and, estimating the value of the silver, the intrinsic worth of the coin to be $5.01.

Conway was not the only private mint operating in that section of the Territory. Georgia Gulch was in the heart of the Snowy Range Mountains not far from Tarryall. As John Ford reported in the New Netherlands Coin Co. 60th Public Auction Sale catalogue, Dr. John Parsons of J. Parsons & Co. was also issuing a coinage at the Tarryall mines. These mines were situated on Tarryall Creek between the towns of Tarryall and Hamilton. Parsons' $2.50 and $5.00 pieces were minted during September and October, 1861.

J. J. CONWAY & CO. $2.50 GOLD



Lot No. 435

435 **$2.50. N.D. (1861).** Obverse: J. J. CONWAY above; & CO. in center; BANKERS below; star at each side divides legend. Reverse: PIKES PEAK above; 2½ in center; DOLLS below. A choice **About Uncirculated,** with considerable mint lustre.

From the famous Virgil Brand Collection, to H. L. P. Brand, to Robert Friedberg, to Capital Coin Co., to Brand-Lichtenfels Sale held by Schulman-Kreisberg, March 18-21, 1964. This coin was actively bid on by James Sloss (acting for A. Kosoff), John Ford, Leo Young, J. C. Browning, and Stack's (as agent for Gibson), and was finally acquired by Stack's for $13,500.00. It is **extremely rare,** soughtafter by all Territorial Gold collectors, and of great interest also to those who study the history of Colorado. This is one of the finest known specimens and should attract considerable bidding. From our Gibson Collection, lot 215. **(See Color Plate)**

JOHN PARSONS

Tarryall Mines - Colorado

Dr. John Parsons enjoyed a career that reflected a degree of versatility surprising even for the Pioneer West of the 1860's. Where he received the medical degree with which he credited himself is not quite clear. In 1858 he was residing in Quincy, Illinois when special circumstances made it essential for him to leave town. He headed further west into the sprawling Kansas Territory where there were rumors of gold. Eventually he settled in the South Park section of Park County, one hundred fifty miles southwest of Denver City, an area that was to be included in the State of Colorado.

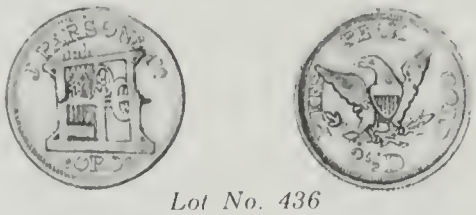
At that time and in that place a man's past was regarded as of little importance. Nevertheless he had to have some luck and push to get ahead. Parsons had plenty of the latter. Shortly after he arrived he experienced what looked like the necessary stroke of luck. Gold was discovered in Park County in 1859. With the amply documented precedent of California a decade earlier, Parsons thought he knew how there was some money to be made in the new gold fields. He imported simple minting machinery and in 1861 arranged to have dies cut for $2.50 and $5.00 gold coins. He then established himself as a mint at the Tarryall Mines on Tarryall Creek between the towns of Tarryall and Hamilton.

The mining process in Colorado was quite different from what it had been in California in 1849. From the beginning the really important production involved capital intensive processing of tough low grade quartz ore. Appropriately enough the designs Parsons chose for his coins reflected the dominating mining technique of the times. On the obverse there was a quartz crushing mill with "J. PARSON & CO." above, a curious error in die sinking. The word "ORO" below carried the message in Spanish that the inscription "PIKES PEAK GOLD" conveyed in English on the reverse. The spread eagle similar to the Federal version, also found on the reverse, is weak on all the surviving coins, an indication of the primitive nature of his mint.

Parsons was able to produce his gold coins only in September and October 1861. According to Lyman H. Low he made less than $500.00 worth. The fact of the matter seems to be that his "J. PARSON & CO." was a one man operation. While the coins were slightly heavier than the Federal issues to compensate for a somewhat lower fineness, he had to compete with the efficient operation of Clark, Gruber & Company in Denver City. But the days of a "one horse" mint operating near a quartz lode mined with expensive machinery by trained personnel were over. As a result the Parsons coins are among the rarest of all Pioneer gold issues. Of the $2.50 denomination there are only six surviving examples. The specimen offered here is among the most attractive.

Dr. John Parsons himself belonged to a species already on the verge of extinction in post-Civil War America. He could not continue his unsuccessful minting operation after the initial failure. As a "jack of all trades and master of none," he ran a boarding house, engaged in dairy farming, tried to be an explorer and lost what little money he had in the "Denver Aqueduct Company," another of his disastrous failures. Although a minor figure of little importance Parsons was still a man who imparted some of the color to one of the most colorful periods of American continental expansion. He survived until 1881.

J. PARSONS & CO. $2.50 GOLD



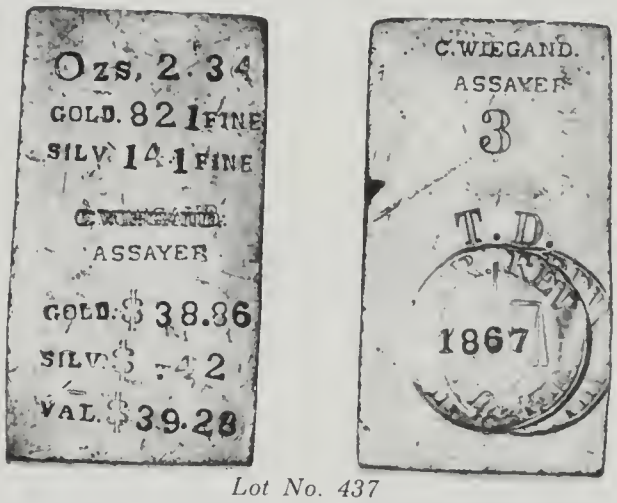
Lot No. 436

436 **$2.50. Undated (1861).** Obverse: A quartz reduction mill; J. PARSON & CO. above; ORO flanked by arrowheads below. Reverse: Eagle similar to adopted Federal design; PIKES PEAK GOLD 2½ D around. Since all were struck unevenly from crude dies they are difficult to grade. We will call this **Very Fine** or perhaps better because the obverse has original lustre. **Excessively rare.** From New Netherlands Coin Co.'s 60th Public Auction Sale, December 3, 4, 1968, lot 603. **(See Color Plate)**

PRIVATE NEVADA GOLD

CONRAD WIEGAND, ASSAYER, GOLD HILL ASSAY OFFICE

For a short period in the early to mid sixties, Conrad Wiegand was Superintendent of Assaying at the prestigious Gould & Curry Mill in Virginia City. When he arrived in Nevada is not known, as his name is not to be found at all in Kelly's 1862 Nevada Directory, or in the 1863, '64 Bancroft Almanacs and Business Directories for the Pacific States as a self-employed assayer. Edwards & Wiegand, as the "Gold Hill Assay Office," have a half-page advertisement in the "Pacific Coast Business Directory for 1867" (page 152, Advertising Department, rear of book), but Edwards name is lacking, and Wiegand & Co. appear alone in Gold Hill, in the 1871-73 second edition of this Langley trade bible. Gold Hill was an incorporated town in Storey County, a little over a mile south of Virginia City. It was on the line of the great Comstock ledge, and built in a deep and precipitous canyon. The croppings of the Comstock vein were there found to contain more gold than silver, hence the source of the town's name, and undoubtedly the reason why Wiegand's early Nevada ingots are composed of comparatively fine quality gold. By 1874 C. Wiegand & Co. were in Virginia City, according to D. M. Bishop & Company's "San Francisco Semi-Annual Trades Guide and Pacific Coast Directory," published in July of that year. L. M. McKenney's "Business Directory of San Francisco and Principal Towns of California and Nevada" for 1877 shows the Virginia Assay Office & Chemical Laboratory, operated by C. Wiegand & Co., at 38 North "C" Street, Virginia City. It also gives C. A. Wiegand as the manager of the Silver Note Bank (sic) Company at the same address, Assayer Wiegand is shown at the same address in 1878 directories, as he is in McKenney's "Pacific coast Directory for 1880-81," but in the latter publication he is also shown as Agent & Superintendent of the Nevada Amalgum Refining Co., and partner in Wiegand, Perkins & Co., Bullion Brokers & Purchasing Agents, and Wiegand, Taylor & Co., Dealers in Crucibles, Assaying Goods, Glassware, Chemical Reagents, Printed Matter for Assayers, Mills and Mines, etc.



Lot No. 437

437 **$39.28. 1867.** Gold Assay ingot, **C. WIEGAND, ASSAYER.** OZS. 2.34 / GOLD. 821 FINE / SILV. 141 FINE / (name; the C. WIEGAND logotype triple punched) / (title; logotype frame indentation shows at lower r.) / GOLD. $38.86 / SILV. $.42 / VAL. $39.28. Rev. C. WIEGAND / ASSAYER /(large) 3 / T.D. (Treasury Department; curved to fit U.S.I.R. stamping below) / (date). The date 1867 is in individual numeral punches, the 7 double-struck. It is over two separate impressions of the U. S. Internal Revenue bullion tax stamp, first struck far to the r. overlapping the edge. 1,098.70 Grains. **Fine to Very Fine.** Also with numerous minor nicks and abrasions; with a test file mark on the upper left rev. edge, a diagonal scratch-like flaw just below it extending up to the larger numeral 3. **Unique,** probably intended to be a $40.00 piece, but the weight fell short. Purchased by Paul Franklin in 1962. Ex John J. Ford, Jr., 1963-64; R. F. Batchelder. A highly interesting and important Wiegand gold ingot, worthy of a good price. From our Gibson Collection, Lot 220. (**See Color Plate**)

The significance of the large "3" upon the reverse of this piece is presently unknown. The U. S. Internal Revenue stamp was applied by the assayer, in accordance with the law of 6/30/64, to indicate that the bullion tax was paid. Wiegand was a prolific worker, as at least a dozen mixed-metal (gold and silver combined) ingots bearing his stamp have been recorded, in addition to the gold ones known from his earlier period.

VERY RARE

1848 CAL. QUARTER EAGLE

Lot No. 438

438 **1848 CAL.** Type of the regular issue but the letters "CAL" counterstamped above the eagle. The "CAL" was stamped on the coin while it was still in the die. It is to signify that it was minted from the first gold received at the Philadelphia Mint from California.

This specimen is **Extremely Fine,** with some prooflike surface. Struck in deep yellow gold. Because of its overall appearance, we feel that this splendid and historically interesting coin should stimulate considerable bidding. **(See Color Plate)**

U. S. CALIFORNIA FRACTIONAL GOLD

GOLD QUARTER DOLLARS

439 1871 G. Lee 36A. Octagon. Liberty head. Proof.

440 (No date) L.3F. Round. Liberty head. Extremely Fine.

441 1875 L.47A. Round. Indian head. Uncirculated, prooflike surface.

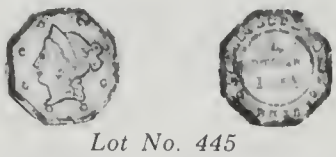
GOLD HALF DOLLARS

442 1856 L.8A. Octagon. Liberty head. Uncirculated, light toning.

443 1875 L.34C. Octagon. Indian head. Uncirculated, prooflike. **Rarity 3.**

444 1856 N. L.18. Round. Liberty head. Uncirculated, some prooflike surface.

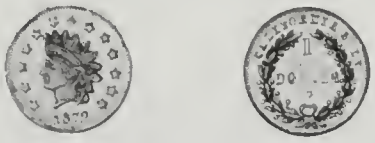
GOLD DOLLARS



Lot No. 445

445 **1853.** L.2C. Octagon. Liberty head. About Uncirculated, iridescent toning.

VERY RARE
1872 ROUND INDIAN HEAD DOLLAR



Lot No. 446

446 **1872** L.8A. **Round.** Indian head. About Uncirculated, prooflike surface. Iridescent toning. Very rare.

END OF SALE — THANK YOU

LIST OF PRICES REALIZED — $5.00

PLEASE
MAIL YOUR BID SHEET
EARLY

Deliveries of U. S. Mail are extremely slow. Some bid sheets for our last sale arrived after the sale date.

We urge you to please mail your bid sheet as early as possible in order to be sure your valued bids will be included in the sale.

With your help Stack's will be able to continue serving you in the same efficient manner as we have in the past.

Thank you.

Stack's

PER ASPERA AD ASTRA